

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 JANUARY 1981

American Hostages

Tehran radio reported the departure of the 52 Americans held hostage for 444 days 2 hours after the actual takeoff of the Algerian planes, a delay later attributed to "security considerations" by Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi. In an interview on Tehran television, Nabavi hailed the release of Iran's frozen assets as a "great victory" over the United States and defended the decision to accept the settlement, saying that if the Iranian Government had tried to implement the Majlis conditions fully, it might have taken "2 or 3 years," contradicting our "practical intentions." The minister went on to explain the reasons for the last-minute delay in the release of the hostages, accusing U.S. bankers of "conspiracies" to deceive Iran. In response to a question regarding future relations with the United States, Nabavi said that if the United States "officially recognizes ... our just rights," there is "no difficulty" in the reestablishing diplomatic and economic relations, provided the relations are within the framework of Islamic laws and the "practices in our country." PARS carried an Iranian Government communique that detailed the agreement with the United States in relation to the conditions set by the Majlis for the release of the hostages.

Iran Foreign Affairs

Tripartite Talks--Delhi radio reported that during discussions in Tehran with Indian Foreign Secretary R.D. Sathe, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said Iran will not participate in tripartite talks with Pakistan and Afghanistan on the Afghan issue.

Islamic Summit--Although Riyadh television cited Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal as saying that Iran will send a delegation to the Islamic Conference summit, the Iranian Foreign Ministry, in a statement carried by Tehran radio, declared that Iran "will not take part" in the summit because of the expected attendance by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. In a related radio report, President Bani-Sadr told a visiting Fatah official that despite Iran's nonattendance, the summit should discuss "Iraqi aggression" and its "extensive implications."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iranian and Iraqi artillery continued to exchange fire around Susangerd and Hoveyzeh, Tehran radio reported, as well as around Abadan and Dezful. The radio also said that a Majlis deputy has denied a Tehran newspaper report that Iranian forces have recaptured Qasr-e Shirin, the site of heavy fighting in the recent Iranian offensive. An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by INA, reported that Iraqi forces repulsed two Iranian probes around Gilan-e Gharb and Mehran.

Islamic Conference Summit

Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi announced that Iraq will oppose debating the Iraqi-Iranian dispute at the Islamic Conference summit, Riyadh radio reported, if Iran participates in it.

Riyadh radio reported that the political committee set up by the Islamic foreign ministers meeting in At-Ta'if unanimously approved an "Islamic action program" concerning Jerusalem and the Palestinian question that will be discussed at the forthcoming Islamic Conference summit. A plan of action was also approved by an economic committee, Karachi radio reported, noting that the committee discussed proposals for an Islamic common market and recommended the establishment of an Islamic trade center in Tangiers.

Egypt

President Anwar as-Sadat addressed a National Democratic Party rally in Aswan, MENA reported, defending his open-door economic policies and promising massive increases in government revenue from the newly widened Suez Canal and oil income over the next 2 years. As-Sadat wished the forthcoming Islamic Conference summit "every success," especially over the Afghan issue, but criticized the Syrian, Libyan and Palestinian leadership for allegedly opposing the inclusion of the Afghan issue in the summit agenda and for their close ties with the Soviet Union. The president said that Egypt is in "constant touch" with Sudan over the threat from Libya and warned Libyan leader Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi that in any possible confrontation "Egypt will stand on the side of Sudan from the first moment."

Libya

JANA reported that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, speaking to the Arab People's Congress in Tripoli, said that Arab unity "from the Atlantic to the Gulf" is the "main and most pressing issue." Al-Qadhdhafi said unity between Libya and Syria is "inevitably coming" and must be realized, "not just to save Libya but to save the entire Arab nation." Regarding relations with the Soviet Union, Al-Qadhdhafi said Libya is "neutral" since "we do not have any Soviet bases and we are not agents of the Soviet Union." Nevertheless, the Libyan leader praised the Soviet Union for its friendship and support. The United States "blacklists" Libya, he added, but the Soviet Union "sells us long-range missiles and strategic planes." Al-Qadhdhafi urged the congress to adopt a program preparing for a "counterattack" against the Arab nation's enemies, namely, "Zionism, imperialism and the reactionary forces throughout the Arab homeland." If the "enemy" withdraws from its bases in Somalia, he added, Libya will cancel its plans for "an attack on Berbera base."

Israel

The Knesset approved the first reading of the government's draft bill to hold elections on 7 July, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio noted that opposition MK's were surprised by the Knesset speaker's ruling that discussion about opposition faction counter-proposals on the dissolution should be postponed to next Monday.

Turkish-Israeli Relations

KUNA, citing the Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, reported that Turkey has requested Israel to "liquidate" its embassy in Ankara within 45 days and confine its diplomatic representation initially to only one embassy official.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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Middle East and Africa

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FOREIGN MINISTERS CONTINUE TO ARRIVE IN AT-TA'IF

Senegalese Minister

GF210519 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Senegalese Minister of Foreign Affairs Moustapha Niasse arrived in At-Ta'if at 1030 today. He will lead his country's delegation currently participating in the Islamic foreign ministers conference. He was received at the airport by Salim Sunbul, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; Saudi Ambassador to Senegal Rashad Nusallam Nawaylati; Senegalese Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Moustapha Cisse; and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Other Arrivals

GF192045 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Gambian External Affairs Minister Lamin Kiti Jabang; Mali Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Minister Alionune Blondin Beye; Guinean External Affairs and Cooperation Minister Dr Abdoulaye Toure; and Chadian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Ahmat Alkabache Acyl arrived in At-Ta'if at 1030 today to participate in the Islamic foreign ministers conference currently meeting in At-Ta'if.

Iranian Notification

JN201518 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1440 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 20 Jan (GNA)--It was announced in At-Ta'if at noon today that Iran will attend the Islamic foreign ministers conference being currently convened in At-Ta'if.

This was stated by Secretary General of the Islamic Conference Organization Habib Chatti at the end of the conference meetings today. Chatti added that the organization has received an Iranian notification to the effect that Iran has agreed to attend the conference and to dispatch a delegation representing the Iranian Government to participate in the conference.

Chatti pointed out that the Iranian delegation, which is due in Jidda this evening, will be made up of five people. Chatti, however, declined to give the names of the members of the Iranian delegation.

Iran had previously announced it will not participate in the conference if Iraqi President Saddam Husayn attends the conference. The Iraqi presidential office, however, affirmed that the Iraqi president will head the Iraqi delegation to the conference.

In his statement Habib Chatti said that the Islamic foreign ministers conference will affirm the decisions adopted by the Islamabad conference on Afghanistan. Chatti stressed that the conference will demand that a political settlement be found for the Afghan crisis which would call for the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan and allowing the Afghan people to determine their fate.

Chatti stated that the political solution does not mean negotiating with the current regime in Afghanistan. Rather, he pointed out, this means that dialogue would be conducted with all the parties concerned in the problem including the Afghan mujahidin.

Chatti denied reports saying that he has been requested to visit Moscow in order to solve the Afghan crisis.

Iranian Delegation

LD201318 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1208 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 20 Jan (SPA)--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister and chairman of the Islamic countries foreign ministers conference, has declared that according to information available to the presidency of the conference the delegation which will be representing Iran at the conference will include Iran's former ambassador to Kuwait and its permanent ambassador to the United Nations in addition to one member from the Iranian parliament.

His royal highness was replying to a press question about the Iranian delegation to the conference.

ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERIAL COMMITTEES MEET 19 JAN

Political, Economic, Cultural

GF192001 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The Islamic foreign ministers conference resumed its session this morning with meetings of its three committees: the political committee--which is the main committee and includes most of the foreign ministers--and the economic and cultural committees--which are concerned with the discussion of Islamic joint working action in both the economic and cultural fields.

At a press conference held this evening Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal said that the ideas and opinions of the (?economic) committee will be reported to another general committee to put them in their final form in order to be handed over to the third Islamic summit.

Afghan Committee

GF192035 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Afghan committee resumed its sessions this morning under the chairmanship of Habib Chatti, the secretary of the Islamic Conference Organization, with the attendance of Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and the Tunisian, Pakistani and Guinean representatives. During today's session the committee listened to a speech delivered by Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi on the latest developments in the Afghan situation. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and the Tunisian representative also delivered speeches.

The committee will resume its sessions to prepare a comprehensive resolution of the Afghan issue in order to hand it over to the foreign ministers conference to be included in the third Islamic summit agenda, because this issue is one of the main Islamic issues to be discussed. The committee, which was created at the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Islamabad, began its session yesterday.

Jerusalem Committee Document

LD201308 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The political committee set up by the Islamic foreign ministers conference concluded its morning session this afternoon.

His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, chairman of the conference and chairman of the committee, stated at the conclusion of the meeting that during the meeting the document submitted by the Jerusalem Committee regarding the Islamic action program was approved. He added that approving this document is considered a basic step and pillar of joint Arab action to support the Palestine question and Jerusalem.

He said that the document was approved unanimously and quickly in a record time.

The committee will continue its meetings at 1600 this afternoon.

The committee on drafting the Mecca communique set up by the political committee has continued its debate on the draft communique's final form. The economic committee has resumed its work to debate the questions before it and to draft its recommendations in preparation for their submission to the conference in its general meeting to be held at the conclusion of the work by the three committees set up by the conference.

MINISTERS DISCUSS ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AGENDA

Iraq's Hammadi

LD201226 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi has announced that Iraq will oppose the debate of any issue during the third Islamic summit which includes the Iraqi-Iranian dispute, in the event of Iran taking part.

Dr Hammadi denied Iraq set any conditions for attending the conference in the event of Iran attending. He mentioned the Iraqi Government will take a stand toward the United States if it materially or militarily supports Iran.

Qatari Minister

JN202036 Doha QNA in Arabic 1340 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 20 Jan (QNA)--Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, has expressed the hope that Libya and Iran will reconsider their stands and participate in the meetings of the forthcoming Islamic summit conference, which will discuss the issues pertaining to bolstering Islamic solidarity in all fields.

In an interview he granted to the Qatari information mission in At-Ta'if today, his excellency stated that the agenda of the Islamic foreign ministers conference includes 20 articles. He added that the most important of these articles are: the draft statement of the Mecca conference, reports submitted by the Jerusalem and Palestine committee, the Afghanistan and Middle East issues, the Iraqi-Iranian war and the establishment of an Islamic court of justice.

Asked about the possibility of ending Arab differences through the meetings of the foreign ministers conference, he said that ending these differences during the convocation of Arab conferences is being discussed, pointing out that these differences will be proposed to an Arab summit to solve them.

Touching on economic issues of concern to the Islamic world, the minister said that these issues, particularly the Jerusalem and Islamic solidarity funds are proposed as one article on the agenda. He added that the Islamic world's economic problems will also be discussed and a comprehensive report to this effect submitted to the Islamic summit.

The minister then discussed the Iraqi-Iranian dispute and the establishment of the Islamic court of justice, saying that these issues are also included in the conference's agenda, which will be referred to the Islamic summit conference for adopting the necessary decisions on them.

Al-Faysal Remarks

GF210710 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, chairman of the Islamic foreign ministers conference, has said the resolutions of the preparatory ministers conference and the resolutions of the third Islamic summit conference should be designed so they can be implemented.

Speaking at a press conference at the great conference hall in At-Ta'if this evening in the presence of Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said: It is hoped that the efforts of the current session of the Islamic conference will be concentrated on implementation. Prince Sa'ud was replying to a question on whether or not the conference's work will go further than adopting resolutions and denunciations.

His highness added: Preparations normally precede implementation. This conference has been well-prepared. For instance, a great deal of time was devoted to preparing for the Jerusalem and Palestine issue--the pivot of Islamic work. Satisfactory preparations have been made for the Jerusalem document by the Jerusalem Committee. The document has been unanimously approved.

Prince Sa'ud asserted that the climate and time are favorable for concentrating on implementation. He said: I believe the political will that complements this picture will be consolidated in this meeting, God willing.

Answering a question on whether or not Saudi Arabia is seeking to convene an Arab mini-summit that would bring together Jordan, Syria, Iraq and the PLO in At-Ta'if prior to the third Islamic summit, Sa'ud al-Faysal said: I have not heard of any such report.

Answering a question on Egypt and whether or not the Islamic summit will call for suspending its membership in the nonalignment movement, Al-Faysal said: Egypt's struggle for Islamic and Arab causes is well-known. It is too great to be given sufficient credit. We hope Egypt will return to its support of Arab causes with the same momentum. There are past resolutions seeking to suspend Egypt's membership in international organizations. The resolution still holds.

Syrian, PLO Delegates

JN180816 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has expressed optimism about the success of the third Islamic summit conference in view of the efforts by all delegations to achieve the objectives of the Arab and Islamic nations.

On his arrival in At-Ta'if yesterday Khaddam also expressed his confidence that the conference will adopt measures to bolster the Arab stand in the present conflict in the area, strengthen Arab solidarity against the Zionist enemy and establish earnest and normal relations among Islamic countries in the service of their issues as well as the issues of the Third World in general.

Khaddam announced that Syria and the PLO have prepared a working paper on the Arab-Israeli conflict, stressing that the Palestine question is the crux of the Middle East conflict. The paper also contains proposals defining the means of confronting the Zionist entity and the role that must be played by the Islamic countries in this regard, he said.

Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, said: The Islamic countries must not be satisfied with the mere adoption of resolutions against the Zionist enemy. They must impose economic and political sanctions against any country supporting the Zionist enemy.

The reports also quote Qaddumi as saying: We must implement our resolutions and put pressure on the United States so that it will, in turn, put pressure on the Zionist enemy, especially since the enemy has annexed Jerusalem. He added: This Islamic pressure could go to the point of severing diplomatic relations with the United States and boycotting it economically.

Qaddumi stressed that the Islamic countries should increase their financial and economic aid to the residents of the occupied Arab territory to bolster their steadfastness against the challenges posed by the Zionist enemy.

FATAH MILITARY COUNCIL MEETS UNDER 'ARAFAT 19 JAN

NC200803 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] The supreme military council of the Palestinian national liberation movement, Fatah, met yesterday under the chairmanship of Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. The meeting, which lasted about 5 hours, was attended by Brothers Abu Jihad and Abu al-Walid, members of the Fatah Central Committee and members of the general command of the Al-'Asifah forces. The council discussed the military situation and a number of military and organizational issues and adopted the necessary decisions.

JAPAN TO GRANT DIPLOMATIC STATUS TO PLO

NC200810 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] The Japanese Government has decided to grant diplomatic status to the PLO representation in Japan; head of the PLO office in Tokyo (Fathi 'Abd al-Hamid) was granted the status of diplomatic representative.

The Japanese newspaper YOMIURI SHIMBUN said yesterday that the decision will go into effect when Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] pays his visit to Japan in the spring.

BAHRAINFOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR AT-TA'IF CONFERENCE

JN171513 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1335 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Manama, 17 Jan (GNA)--Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah left Manama for At-Ta'if this afternoon to attend the Islamic foreign ministers conference, which will begin there today. In a statement upon his departure the Bahraini foreign minister said the conference represents an important turning point in the history of the Islamic people because it takes place at the beginning of the 15th Islamic century in the holy Islamic lands.

He pointed out that the conference takes place under very important circumstances for the Islamic world and the world in general because the topics on its agenda influence all the areas of world. Shaykh Muhammad expressed confidence that the conference will measure up to the expectations of the Islamic people and the whole world.

KUWAITAL-WATAN COMMENTS ON HAIG REMARKS ON PLO

LD191013 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 14 Jan 81 p 14

['Abdallah Hamda's "Arab Horizons" feature: "A New American Attempt To Split the Palestinian Revolution"]

[Text] The statements attributed to the new U.S. secretary of state [designate], Alexander Haig, reportedly made before the American Senate, alluding to the possibility of the American administration dealing with "certain tendencies" within the PLO do not go beyond their being a new attempt to split the Palestinian revolution's national unity by giving the impression that some of the revolution leaders will be contacts within the framework of a future "American solution." It is also an transparent attempt to justify the constant threats America is making on the pretext of securing oil supplies. America sometimes claims that these supplies could be subjected to a Soviet invasion, and at other times, it claims that they could be subjected to sabotage attempts by extremist groups.

This explains the contradiction between the statements made by U.S. President Reagan during his election campaign, describing the PLO as "terrorist" and the statements made by his secretary of state about the possibility of dealing with "certain tendencies" within the PLO.

The new American administration is trying to penetrate the PLO from within by nurturing certain "formal" contradictions among the leaders of the revolution into contradictions over the substance to which the Palestine National Council, since its establishment, has emphasized its adherence and for the attainment of which it has pledged to continue the struggle--the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Despite the fact that our Arab masses, particularly the Palestinian revolution, are aware of the hostile intentions of the policy of the previous and future American administrations, it is an urgent pan-Arab demand to warn against the seriousness of the future American game and to confront it because the American game, which began with the Camp David agreements, has achieved only one of its aims--that of isolating Egypt from the Arab nation--one of the many other aims of the conspiracy, particularly the aim of extinguishing the flame of the revolution which has been able to draw world attention to the Palestinian people's problem and lost rights.

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ARABIAN PENINSULA

OMAN

SULTAN QABUS SENDS GREETINGS CABLE TO REAGAN

LD201600 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Jan 81 EA

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus has sent a congratulatory cable to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. This is the text of the cable:

Your Excellency, Mr Ronald Reagan, President of the United States. On the occasion of your assumption of the U.S. presidency, we are pleased to send you our heartfelt congratulations and sincere wishes for your success. We are sure the existing excellent ties of friendship and cooperation between our two countries will grow and flourish in the interests of the Omani and American peoples and the development of the two countries. We pray for your success.

[Signed] Qabus ibn Sa'id.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR ISLAMIC MEETING

JN170833 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0815 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Muscat, 17 Jan (GNA)--Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Awawi, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the delegation accompanying him left Muscat for At-Ta'if this morning to participate in the meetings of the Islamic foreign ministers conference.

QATAR

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR AT-TA'IF CONFERENCE

JN170840 Doha QNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Doha, 17 Jan (QNA)--Shaykh Hamad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, left Doha for At-Ta'if this morning to head his country's delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers meeting to begin there later today.

QATAR SUPPORTS UAE ON RETURN OF OCCUPIED ISLANDS

LD171204 Kuwait KUNA in English 1127 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 17 Jan (KUNA)--Qatar's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani Saturday announced his country's support for the UAE demand for restoration of three islands occupied by Iran during the former shah's regime.

He stated on arrival here with his UAE counterpart Shaykh Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi to attend today's meeting of Islamic foreign ministers that the ministers would discuss a long-term Islamic strategy for coordination and cooperation in the political, security and other fields.

Meanwhile, Shaykh al-Nu'aymi said that his country would support the holding of any Gulf conference if necessitated by circumstances. He also hailed a recent proposal by the amir of Kuwait for the creation of an Islamic court of justice saying that [words indistinct] we would contribute to fostering relations between the Islamic countries.

SAUDI ARABIAFOREIGN MINISTER LAUDS AGREEMENT ON HOSTAGES

LD191155 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1135 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 19 Jan (SNA)--Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has commented on the agreement reached between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States, saying that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom welcomes the agreement reached between Iran and the United States.

He added that without doubt solving the hostage problem will provide the opportunity for Iran to concern itself with Islamic issues and issues of the area, support the Arab nation, and aid stability and security in the region.

MINISTER DENIES NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH PAKISTAN

LD191248 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1127 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 19 Jan (DPA)--Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani has denied reports by the London paper THE SUNDAY TIMES about a nuclear cooperation program between the kingdom and Pakistan. He said that the details published are no more than a fabricated story both in detail and as a whole. He affirmed that the kingdom's cooperation and relations with Pakistan or any other sister or friendly country cannot be directed against any country other than Israel.

UAEFOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR AT-TA'IF MEETING

JN170828 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0820 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 Jan (GNA)--Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, left Abu Dhabi for At-Ta'if today to participate in the Islamic foreign ministers meetings to begin there later today.

'Abdallah asserted that the UAE attaches extreme importance to these meetings in view of the circumstances through which the Islamic world is passing. He said: The meeting of Muslim leaders is important because it constitutes a new step toward economic cooperation among the Islamic countries. He added that the conferees will discuss several important current issues, including the restoration of Jerusalem, to which the Islamic world attaches extreme importance, as well as several major issues of interest to all Muslims.

PDRYCHAIRMAN ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON YSP SESSION

LD201600 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The YSP Central Committee last night ended its second ordinary session, which was chaired by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and of the Council of Ministers. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has issued a press communique on the outcome of the session, and here it is in full:

During its second ordinary session held from 14 to 17 January 1981, the YSP Central Committee examined a number of party, political and economic issues placed before it by its secretariat on behalf of the governorates, the armed forces and branches of the executive authority.

All the points included in this session's agenda were discussed by a large number of the members and candidate members of the Central Committee. The discussions reflected the vital importance of the session, which was convened at a time of extensive activity on the part of our country's toiling masses as they welcome 1981 and advance towards the implementation of the decisions of the YSP extraordinary congress and the promotion of the ongoing revolutionary process in the country to fulfill the tasks of the democratic national revolution with its socialist aspects.

In the course of its review of the situation and political developments on the Arab and international planes, the Central Committee examined the party and the state's external activities during the past period and stressed the correctness, soundness and major trends of our foreign policy, which are based on the principles of coexistence and internationalist solidarity among peoples.

The Central Committee expressed full satisfaction over the development of our country's relations with the Arab states of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front in all political, economic and cultural fields, as well as the growth of fraternal cooperation with the other fraternal Arab states.

The Central Committee highly assessed the rising level of friendship and cooperation in all vital fields between our country and the friendly socialist countries, headed by the USSR, as well as our developing relations with socialist Ethiopia.

The Central Committee holds the view that the successes achieved by these relations reflect the brilliance of the noble ideals and principles toward which the forces of progress, peace and socialism in the world are struggling with the objective of ensuring progressive development for humanity and fighting all forms of backwardness, national and social oppression and aggression.

In the light of the militant links of destiny between the Yemeni revolutionary movement and the Arab national liberation movement, the Central Committee studied the dangers arising from the escalating imperialist and Zionist aggressive conspiracies and designs aimed against the Arab national liberation movement and its progressive gains by plotting against Arab nationalist and progressive regimes, mobilizing of sabotage and treachery by the forces of Arab reaction and the Arab right, and creating hotbeds of tension and local wars as pretexts for direct military intervention, clear indications of which are provided by imperialist military moves and land, sea and air bases in Arab lands.

In this respect, the Central Committee holds the view that action to preserve the security, stability and sovereignty of the Arab region is a vital task, the preformance of which requires struggle so as to provide a basic guarantee to bring about an upsurge of the national liberation movement and social progress of our Arab peoples and thwarting imperialist ambitions to gain control of the region's resources. This can only be achieved if the Arab people follow the path of resolute resistance to the Camp David parties and (?the strengthening) of the unity of the alliance of Arab progressive and nationalist forces and backing it will all the forces fighting for liberation, progress, peace and stability in the world.

In consideration of the sensitive circumstances and critical developments affecting our region, the Central Committee emphasized the rectitude of our country's attitude towards the Iraq-Iran war, which is bound to greatly damage the interests of the two peoples and the resources for the struggle against imperialism and Zionism, the Central Committee holds the view that the continuation of this war serves to promote the aggressive imperialist plan to stir up tension and create pretexts for imperialist military intervention in the region.

It has become clear that the real threat to the security, stability and progress of our Arab peoples lies in the aggressive ambitions and intentions of the imperialist forces, which have been striving and planning ever since the mid-seventies to seize the oilfields in the region so as to halt the wheel of economic and social development and thus to ensure political and economic subservience to the world imperialist system, which is being attenuated by violent crises and the mounting victories won by the world revolutionary movement in the fields of national liberation, social progress, democracy and socialism.

The Central Committee highly rated the disinterested efforts being made to bring about security and peace in the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea and above all the Soviet proposals on eliminating the factors of tension and threats of military intervention in the region. The Central Committee holds the view that these proposals constitute a practical and realistic basis for ensuring peace and security in the region and for exposing the aggressive intentions of world imperialism.

In the field of strengthening and developing the party, the Central Committee examined a number of issues essential to enhancing the internal life of the party and improving its methods in leading the state and society in the light of the militant traditions and experience it has acquired, primarily in the development of planned action, which is a basic characteristic of the party's internal life and a basic factor for promoting the revolutionary march led by our YSP.

The Central Committee examined and evaluated the implementation of the plans of the supreme leadership authorities during 1980 with particular reference to the vital issues facing the party and the people in the fields of building the party; developing economic management; improving the effectiveness of ideological and political work in the ranks of the masses; concern for solving the housing problem and improving supply, health and cultural services; and raising the people's defensive capabilities.

The Central Committee believes that the 1980 plans of the supreme popular leadership organizations have revealed marked improvement in the performance of their planned and organized work, as brought to light by the way in which these plans have dealt with a number of vitally important problems and subjects affecting the internal life of our party, methods of raising its leadership level, as well as other aspects concerning the economy and political and ideological work among the masses.

On the basis of the positive results obtained from the implementation of the 1980 plans, the Central Committee has endorsed its own plans and those of its Political Bureau and Central Committee for 1981. In the light of the basic trends of these plans, which regulate the work of the party and form the basis of its leading role in society, the Central Committee examined the plan of the first year, 1981, as part of the amended second 5-year plan and the draft recurrent and development budget for this year. It stressed the importance of continuing efforts to reduce expenditure, increase general revenue and to struggle against all negative aspects in the fields of management and attitude to work.

The Central Committee appeals to all our masses, fighters and party supporters to make 1981 a year of collective responsibility for developing the management of the national economy and exposing all forms of political, economic and ideological sabotage.

This is a task which cannot be performed without extensive participation in implementing the 1981 development plan and making maximum patriotic efforts to achieve practical and palpable successes in the fields of building new houses for the citizens, developing the health and cultural services, raising the level of discipline and commitment to the laws which regulate the life and work of the citizens and the executive authority--laws which rely on the established struggle traditions in the life of our party and people through the expansion of democracy in the internal life of the party, the entrenchment of the scientific socialist ideology and the promotion of awareness and of close involvement with the people's and homeland's causes on the part of the party's leadership and grass roots.

Sustaining and developing these struggle traditions must be viewed as prerequisites for further successes in our political, economic and ideological activities. Accordingly, it is necessary to deal with all negative aspects capable of weakening the spirit of struggle discipline, obstructing the people's progressive social development, breaking or evading the law, misusing public property and rating oneself above the masses.

The Central Committee considers protecting democratic legitimacy to secure the functions of the organs of state in conformity with the spirit of the constitution and the operative laws in such a manner as to enable citizens to exercise their rights and perform their duties to be the principal duty to which the party and mass organizations and the executive authority must devote their attention in centers of work and production. The organs of party and popular control, all members and candidate members, as well as other workers and toilers are responsible for protecting and entrenching democratic legitimacy by way of respect for and strict application of the laws, rules and regulations in our country's public life in a manner conducive to the establishment of our party's leadership in society and to bringing the masses under its banner.

The importance of this session was manifested in its deep and responsible evaluation of the process of constructing the party, the economy and society in its extensive discussions, which drew on the resolutions and results of our party's extraordinary congress toward defining ways of uplifting our national economy, improving the life of the toilers and strengthening our country's position in the national liberation movement of our Arab peoples against imperialism, Zionism and reaction, as well as strengthening joint struggle bonds with the world's forces of liberation, progress and socialism. These discussions were devoted to evaluating the main content of the experience of our country's revolutionary structure and the significance of the principal trends of the second amended 5-year plan, which constitutes our YSP's second program. This content reflects our party's strong determination to entrench deeply the revolutionary experience it is guiding toward fulfillment of the tasks of the national democratic revolution, whose socialist character can only be assured by strengthening the unity of the YSP--the supreme political organization of the Yemeni working class and of its toiling allies--and developing the means of party, political and economic action in such a manner as to guarantee the participation of the broad masses in the process of bringing about society's democratic renewal under the aegis of the principles and aims of the YSP.

The Central Committee believes that broadening the party's base by attracting to it the most active and conscious elements, who excel in work and are loyal to the causes of the people and the homeland, from the ranks of the workers, peasants and the rest of the toiling masses, will serve to consolidate the party's position in society and deepen its integration with the toiling masses, from whom it constantly renews its vitality.

In this connection the Central Committee appeals to the party organizations in the governorates, the armed forces and in places of work and production to make a maximum effort to implement the party's plans for expansion. Party members and candidate members bear the responsibility daily to translate the content and objectives of the party's expansion plan, through being living examples of modern party members, in order to gain more friends and supporters for the party's internal and external policies, ensuring that the YSP remains attractive to the ranks of our Yemeni people.

The YSP principles and objectives come to life and are victorious through the party's involvement with the struggle and interests of the people and the homeland and its loyalty to the revolutionary ideals and values and to the glorious struggle traditions of our Yemeni people. The party is also involved in their revolutionary movement, in the various stages of the national and class struggle for liberation from subservience and for the sake of restoring Yemeni unity in order to achieve comprehensive social progress.

The Central Committee stressed in its session the need to continue the struggle for Yemeni unity, unity of land and people, on sound and real democratic bases, so as to ensure for the people the attainment of their national hopes for sovereignty, democracy and independent social progress, while maintaining the progressive gains and achievements provided by the struggle of our Yemeni people and their progressive and nationalist forces, which have ever believed in the principles and objectives of 26 September and 14 October.

The Central Committee appeals to the masses of the Yemeni people to be vigilant against the intrigues of the hostile forces which are attempting to create obstructions and plant problems and even carry out naked intervention in our internal affairs, so as to detract from our national sovereignty.

The palpable experience of our people's struggle has demonstrated that the successes achieved in the sphere of economic, social and cultural construction are closely linked with the development and strengthening of our people's defensive capabilities, which have constituted and continue to constitute a protective shield for our people's victories and a powerful rock on which are shattered the conspiracies of the hostile forces.

In this connection the Central Committee expressed its great satisfaction at the prominent role performed by our armed forces in the defense of the Yemeni revolution and in ensuring its progressive march and in their vital contribution to deepen their cohesion with the toiling masses, underpin the authority of the toilers and raise the leadership position of the party in society.

The Central Committee believes that the 10th anniversary of armed forces day, which our people will be celebrating in September this year, should be an occasion to intensify the national and class struggle of our Yemeni people and strengthen the steel-like unity of the armed forces and the toiling masses, under the banner of the glorious YSP.

COUNCIL REMOVES DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER FROM POST

LD202306 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, this morning presented the political evaluation report to the Supreme People's Council session.

He reviewed a number of local, Arab and international issues and the measures taken since the convening of the extraordinary general congress of the YSP up to the holding of the last session of the Supreme People's Council. The measures were connected with the organization of the activities of the government machinery and concentrated on the realization of further political, economic and social transformations for the benefit of the masses of our people.

The report referred to the new laws that have been issued concerning: the eradiction of illiteracy; the organization of the courts; the preservation of the environment from pollution; income tax; other regulations. The report stressed that they constituted a new step towards strengthening revolutionary and legal legitimacy of our nationalist and revolutionary system. The report also stressed that the draft laws and other issues that will be discussed during this session will be of vital importance to the government's future activity.

Meanwhile in memory of the martyrs who fell during the struggle against the invaders and the colonialists and in memory of those who fell for the freedom, independence, progress and sovereignty of our Yemeni people, the Supreme People's Council at the beginning of the session observed a minutes silence for the souls of the martyrs, as the day coincided with the date of the occupation of southern Yemen, namely, 19 January 1839.

The radio reporter has also learned that the assembly has made a number of decisions and recommendations in connection with the subjects discussed during the session. These include the people's council's decision to withdraw the membership of Brothers Ali Salim al-Bid and Mulki Abdallah, Hasan from the Supreme People's Council for breaking the family law [qanun al-usrah]. In this respect the assembly also resolved to relieve Brother Ali Salim al-Bid of his post as deputy prime minister.

YAR

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES TO ATTEND AT AT-TA'IF MEETING

JN171356 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Foreign Affairs Minister Brother 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr left San' a' this morning for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia leading the YAR delegation to attend the Islamic foreign ministers meeting to convene in At-Ta'if.

In a statement to the SABA NEWS AGENCY, the brother minister said that our delegation will participate in preparing the working paper for the Islamic summit, which will convene on 25 January.

MINISTER COMMENTS ON IRANIAN RELEASE OF HOSTAGES

NC192051 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1958 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Aswan, 19 Jan (MENA)--Minister of State for the Presidency, Culture and Information Mansur Hasan has expressed his appreciation of the Iranian Government's decision to release the U.S. hostages, saying that this decision has put an end to a humanitarian problem, the solution of which the world has been seeking for a long time. Commenting on the Iranian Government's decision, Hasan added: We hope that this decision would mark the beginning of a new trend in which the Iranian Government will seek the establishment of normal relations with the other world states, particularly in the area, to be able to carry out its duty of promoting the lot of the fraternal people in Iran. Furthermore, we must mention with appreciation the positive role which Algeria has performed.

The minister extended his congratulations to the American people on the return of their sons after a long period of psychological suffering and anxiety over their fate.

In conclusion, Hasan expressed his happiness with the solution to the problem which has preserved lives of people despite the fact that it has taken too long. Iran, he said, could have reached this solution earlier and it would have saved itself a long period of instability.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON HOSTAGE ISSUE 19 JAN

NC191210 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1150 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jan (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that Egypt welcomes the new development in the hostages issue. He added: We hope this development will have positive effects on U.S.-Iranian relations and the area in general. Egypt, he asserted, believes that it is necessary and vital for the security and stability in the world that all states abide by the provisions of international law and, in their international relations, respect all the internationally accepted practices and agreements governing international relations.

AS-SADAT SENDS CABLE OF CONGRATULATIONS TO REAGAN

NC191353 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Jan 81

["Text" of cable of congratulations from President Anwar as-Sadat to U.S. President Ronald Reagan on his assumption of office]

[Text] On your assumption of the U.S. presidency, it pleases me to send you most sincere, heartfelt congratulations on my behalf and on behalf of the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt, wishing you success in achieving the hopes of your friendly people.

I am confident that the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the United States and the Arab Republic of Egypt on the solid bases of understanding and constant consultations on various international topics of mutual interest will witness further strength and progress in your era to the benefit of both countries and in support of world peace and security. The Egyptian people share my confidence that the positive and effective U.S. role as a full partner in furthering the peace efforts will continue until these efforts come to fruition and our people enjoy security and prosperity.

Please accept my sincerest greetings and best wishes of good health and happiness for you, wishing your friendly people further achievement and progress.

AS-SADAT DELIVERS SPEECH TO ASWAN PUBLIC RALLY

NC201810 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Aswan, 20 Jan (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat today delivered an important political speech during the rally which the National Democratic Party held in Aswan today. The following is the text of the speech:

In the name of God. My kinsmen and people: I thank God Almighty that I have managed to come to Aswan this year to live among you as we have become accustomed to do every year and to follow up the national action's achievements here, particularly now that we have defined the three objectives for which we are working and which are building peace, democracy and prosperity.

While I am with you here, it is God's almighty will that Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Production and Petroleum Engineer Hilal made an announcement of the new [oil] discoveries in figures. This silences those who are spiteful on the one hand and gladdens our hearts, we the sons of the Egyptian family from Alexandria to Aswan and from the west to the east.

We waged our battle in October 1973. In 1974, 2 months after the battle, I advocated the open door policy and said that it was impossible to continue to conduct our policy the way we were doing. We had become introverts and we had isolated ourselves from the world. We turned to industry the way the communists do. We adopted Lenin's theory which lays stress on electricity and steel and neglected agriculture. Well, the Soviet Union has reached the moon and it has the atomic and hydrogen bombs, weapons and everything but because it has neglected agriculture, it is under the mercy of the United States, Canada and Australia. The Soviet Union's people would starve if they did not buy wheat.

This is why I advocated the economic open-door policy in 1974 2 months after the battle. Why did we isolate ourselves from the world? The Russians would have loved it if we had remained isolated. Well, you have not isolated yourselves, oh Russians, and you are buying your wheat and technology from abroad. Why then do you want us to remain isolated and not buy technology and develop ourselves.

I declared the open-door policy and they [the Soviets] attacked me. They said that the economy would collapse and the private sector would end and capitalism would be revived. They leveled the accusations that you are aware of. These people are parrots reiterating what the Soviet Union says and its Marxist theory.

We went ahead with the open door policy. This was in 1974. In 1975, the Suez Canal was reopened, although it was within the range of the Israeli guns. You will remember this and you will also remember that I said at the time that I will reopen the Suez Canal and will return the evacuees to the cities of Port Said, Ismailia and Suez, which were also within the range of the guns. You will also remember that I said then that if Israel hit the canal or any city, I would hit the interior of Israel. I reopened the canal and Israel did not attack. On the contrary, due to our position after the October war and because it found itself in a difficult position, Israel withdrew its heavy guns from the canal and the cities--from the Egyptian front--without us asking for this.

As for the canal, the U.S. Navy alone possessed the necessary equipment for cleaning the canal. I contacted the United States and it responded at once. Only 48 hours after contacting them, the Americans began the cleaning operation from Port Said together with the Egyptian Navy. I invited the Soviet Union also so as not to say that I invited the United States before the Soviet Union.

After 1 month, the Soviet Union answered, saying: I will participate with the Americans in the cleaning operation provided I am paid from the tolls on my ships which will pass the canal after it is reopened. I told the Soviet Union: The Americans are not getting paid, and if you could do the same, then you are welcome and if not we are also grateful.

Britain and France came in the wake of the United States and they asked me nothing. The Russians came back after another month and they said: We will participate. The United States, Britain and France had then completed the first stage and reached Suez city. We gave the Soviet Union a piece of the Suez Gulf outside the canal to clean because it asked to participate in the operation 2 months after its start.

As you heard me say before, I and the petroleum minister, who was Hilal again at the time, closed the oilfields in the Red Sea and the Suez Gulf half an hour before the battle started so that the Israelis would not notice this. The petroleum continued to flow until half an hour before the battle. It was at 0630 on 6 October when we closed the oilfields. We needed oil for the battle. As I told you, I spoke to Al-Qadhdhafi and told him: I have made my calculations, my son, and I need 4 million tons. I have made my calculations, my son, and I need 4 million tons over a year and I do not need them immediately. He said I am ready and he sent two tanker ships, as you know. Then he refused to supply any additional supplies. It was then that I turned to the shah of Iran, may God bless his soul. I had a reserve then for only 15 days to supply the armed forces and the country. If a battle had taken place then, my armed forces would have used this reserve in a matter of hours. The country and the armed forces would have run out of petroleum after a few hours. The shah of Iran, may God bless his soul, rushed to my aid. I had asked my Arab brothers. They responded but, as usual, they took their time. When I said that I had a reserve for 15 days, they did not take it seriously and they delegated the ministers concerned to take action, but they took their time and sent the petroleum in a period of 1-2 months. But this was a battle.

When I asked the shah to help, he ordered by radio the oil tankers which were on their way to Europe to sail to Alexandria because he knew that the battle cannot tolerate any delay and that the armed forces would use the 15 days reserve in 2 hours if a battle took place. What would I have done then? My tanks, armed forces and even the country would have come to a standstill because the bakeries, and everything else, would have stopped and the electricity would have been cut off. When Al-Qadhdhafi refused to supply us after having agreed to provide 4 million tons of oil over a year, the shah of Iran diverted the tankers which were sailing the high seas and immediately sent me 600,000 tons.

They will convene an Islamic conference, in Mecca probably, after 2 days this month. I wish them every success. Perhaps they will succeed in one issue, which is the issue of Afghanistan. Is it not a shame that the rulers of a Muslim people in Syria, the rulers of a Muslim people in Libya and the rulers of a Muslim people in South Yemen are standing on the side of the Soviet Union against the people of Afghanistan? The Soviet Union's tanks are daily crushing the women, children and youths and destroying the mosques and houses. This has not moved the conscience of the rulers of Syria, Libya and South Yemen or the Palestinians. The calamity is that the Palestinians are victims. Well, you should stand with those who are victims and not with the Soviet Union. I tell them from here: As Egypt was and will continue to be a shield, God willing, for every Arab and Muslim, we will share what we have with the Afghan people. What we have now is little, but God has blessed it and will make it much. We will share what little we have with the Afghan people and we will send arms. Let the Soviet Union and our brothers in the Islamic world and Arab nation hear that Egypt will always remain faithful to its Islamic and Arab responsibility.

Let them also know that I told them at the People's Assembly: Our Lord Almighty said: "The blind and the seeing are not alike; nor are the depths of darkness and the light; nor are the (chilly) shade and the (genial) heat of the sun; nor are those that are living and those that are dead alike. God can make any that He wills to hear; but thou canst not make those to hear who are (buried) in graves." [verse from the Koran]. I told them, come let us match our deeds with our words. God Almighty has also taught us: "Oh ye who believe! Why say ye that which ye do not?!" [verse from the Koran] I told them: Let us not be among those who God described as blind. Let there be no torrent of slogans when our words do not match our actions and thus deserve the curse of God: "Grievously odious is it in the sight of God that ye say which ye do not." [verse from the Koran] I tell them [the Muslims and Arabs] now that God is supporting us and giving us with no account: Return to religion and faith. Return to sound Arabism and not false Arabism [i'irabiyah]. I tell you with love, I wish they would succeed but once in the issue of the people of Afghanistan.

The Islamabad conference was the comedy of the whole Islamic world. The conference convened but it did not denounce the Soviet Union whose tanks crushed the children, women, mosques and houses. Syria, the Palestinians and the Libyans have opposed the inclusion of the issue of Afghanistan on the agenda of the conference to be held after tomorrow. What Islamic conference is this whose agenda does not include the question of Afghanistan? We tell them that Egypt will remain faithful to its responsibility and that it will remain always the flag and the torch and the spirit and heart of its Islamic nation and Arab nation. Cairo and Egypt will always have a place for every Muslim and Arab who seeks refuge. I do not want them to meet with the inevitable fate. I want them to reflect and ponder before the calamity falls.

They, rich and poor, will not find under any circumstances a place to resort to other than Egypt. They will find no place other than Egypt despite all they committed against it in the past 3 years. They are undoubtedly suffering now from this division in the Arab nation. There is a division in Syria, division in Lebanon and division in Iraq. There is also Iraq's battle with Iran, the Sahara battle among Libya, Algeria and Morocco. There are also the Soviet bases in South Yemen. There is also what has taken place in Saudi Arabia. What is happening now in the Gulf is a division. They had to suffer all this division, because they have not isolated Egypt but isolated themselves from Egypt.

After 3 years, the structure is growing high here. The new tributaries in the Suez Canal were inaugurated last month. The tunnel was inaugurated earlier. The technology we see here in Aswan is the most modern of the age. We have the green revolution and intensified cultivation. The surprise will come on 29 [January], God willing, when we will enter the wide door. There is production every month and God's blessing is great. Our petroleum income will reach 12 billion [dollars] after 2 years against 2 billion now. This is so despite the fact that we were once on the brink of abyss.

I thank God Almighty. This is the best reason for us to continue along the right path. It should also teach others the lesson of life that no matter how great, wealth does not build leadership, history, or values. The values exist and God Almighty granted them and embodied them on this soil where we were brought up. We must adhere to these values and pray to God and thank Him daily for His boundless giving to us.

What remains is the Arab situation. I spoke about it in general. As for Chad, I would like to tell them that Egypt adheres to its responsibility. We refused to recognize what has taken place in Chad and we have closed our embassy there. This means that we do not accept or approve of what happened in Chad. We are in constant touch with fraternal Sudan, because this is something that threatens it. I declare from here, and let everybody hear me, that Egypt will stand on the side of Sudan from the first moment, regardless of the battle or how long it will take.

Egypt will stand on the side of Sudan from the first moment and until God's will is done. This is clear and perhaps the child Al-Qadhafi will learn from today's lesson. After today's lesson, I do not have to tell you about any stand. These are our stands. This is God's blessing to us and this is their position. Let them take lessons. Kinsmen, people, sons and daughters: We must always keep our heads high and proceed forward. We must cooperate to lay down the firmest foundations of this structure that God Almighty has blessed and has given us abundantly to do so. We must revive all values of this soil.

AS-SADAT MESSAGE DELIVERED TO ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

NC201413 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Excerpt] In his message to the international economic conference, which began in Aswan today, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat expressed Egypt's appreciation for the foreign aid granted by friendly states and Egypt's eagerness to strengthen its relations with the international community in all spheres. He said that Egypt, in the stage of economic strength, needs to further strengthen its relations with its friends in order to speed up the process of reaching the stage of prosperity. The president pointed out that the increase in Egypt's revenues from oil, tourism and the Suez Canal does not mean dispensing with the international community, but means, rather, increasing this cooperation, particularly with the friendly states.

Deputy Prime Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid delivered the president's message at the opening of the conference, which is being attended by representatives of about 20 states and international organizations. The deputy prime minister thanked the members of the delegations for the good sentiments they displayed. He said that the desire by the states taking part in the conference to assist has exceeded all expected limits. Before the conference opened, he said, Canada decided to extend an additional \$200 million to Egypt on easy terms, and Italy decided to extend \$100 million to Egypt at 4 percent interest.

The deputy prime minister said there is a surplus in Egypt's balance of payments, and this surplus must not continue because Egypt will increase its imports of capital goods, building materials, cement and manufactured goods until it is able to achieve an upswing in the rates of investment and production in Egypt with a view to increasing the rate of growth.

Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid said that President as-Sadat yesterday asked him to speed up the land reclamation and the food security and housing projects. He said: We expect the rate to increase by about five or sixfold of the present rate.

OFFICIALS DENY REPORTS OF MILITARY AID TO IRAQ

NC201437 Cairo MENA in English 1320 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jan (MENA)--Minister of Defence and Military Production General Ahmad Badawi told the Peoples Assembly today in an answer to reports that Egypt sent soldiers and equipment to Iraq in the Iraqi-Iranian war that these reports are false and groundless. The minister of defence said: We are committed to the political line of the state based on non-intervention, and added that any officer who wants to join any foreign army, should get a licence from the Ministry of Defence here. The Ministry of Defence pointed out that he did not give any licences in this respect, but as for families who emigrated to Iraq and got the Iraqi nationality, the minister of defence said that this is not under our competence if they fought with the Iraqis in their war General Badawi added that Egypt did not supply Iraq with any arms because we adopt a neutral position and we condemn any war between Moslems.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON RELATIONS WITH UNITED STATES

JN201158 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1133 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 20 Jan (GNA)--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, who is leading his country's delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers conference currently being held in At-Ta'if, has declared that his country will take a specific stand toward the United States if it begins to give military and financial aid to Iran after the latter has released the U.S. hostages.

Dr Hammadi told GNA in At-Ta'if today that the hostage issue or other issues will not have an important effect on the Iraqi-Iranian war, which has been going on for 5 months now, especially since the stands of all quarters have become clear and after these quarters have mobilized all their strength in this war.

He added that the Iraqi-Iranian war has no secrets and that all issues have now been revealed and are developing clearly. He said that this war will not be basically affected by anything, be it the hostage issue or any other.

MILITARY COMMAND ISSUES BATTLE COMMUNIQUE

Communique No 221

JN191723 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Communique No 221 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command 19 January 1981]

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA)--In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

With pride, our valiant armed forces continue to score victories over the Magian Persian forces, inflicting further losses in life and equipment. Following are the results of last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

- A. Two were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
- B. An enemy concentration was sighted near our positions in the Gilan-e Gharb area. Our units attacked the concentration with all their weapons, forcing it to flee after sustaining 19 dead.
- C. Five were killed opposite our positions in the Sayf Sa'id area.
- D. Four were killed in the Mehran area.
- E. Three were killed in the Dezful area.
- F. Our units continued to destroy the enemy remnants in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area, inflicting the following losses:
 - 1. 115 were killed.
 - 2. Six tanks; four armored personnel carriers, eight vehicles including one carrying personnel, five rocket launchers and one excavator were destroyed.
- G. Our units in the Abadan area killed three Persians and destroyed one vehicle, one stockpile of hardware and a microwave station.

This makes the total known enemy losses: 151 dead, 6 tanks, 4 armored personnel carriers, 9 vehicles including one carrying personnel, 5 rocket launchers, 1 excavator, 1 stockpile of hardware and 1 microwave station.

II. Our losses:

- A. In personnel: 20 martyrs in all sectors.
- B. In equipment: Three tanks, seven vehicles, one mortar and one armored car were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 January 1981

Communique No 222

JN201551 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1513 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Communique No 222 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command 20 January 1981]

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jan (INA)--In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Following are the results of the activities of our armed forces in the operational sectors yesterday evening and this morning:

I. Known enemy losses:

- A. Two were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
- B. An enemy force attempted to approach our units' positions in the Gilan-e Gharab area, but our units intercepted it, forcing it to retreat leaving seven dead. Our field guns also downed an enemy helicopter, which tried to carry out a raid against our units in the same region.
- C. An enemy force was seen in front of our units' positions in the area of Mehran. Our units engaged this force, thus forcing it to flee after 12 were killed. An enemy patrol tried to approach our units' positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area. Our units used all weapons to engage this force forcing it to flee, leaving behind 14 dead.
- D. Our units engaged the enemy personnel, thus inflicting on it the following losses: 11 dead, 3 vehicles, one of which was laden with ammunition; 2 guns and 2 ammunition stockpiles.

This makes the total known enemy losses: 46 dead; 3 vehicles, one of which was laden with ammunition; 2 guns; 2 stockpiles and 1 helicopter.

II. Our losses:

- A. In personnel: 12 martyrs in all sectors.
- B. In equipment: One tank, one personnel carrier, four vehicles, one mortar and two excavators were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 January 1981

OFFICIAL RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM GDR SPEAKER

JN191119 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan (INA)--Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad today received a written message from GDR People's Chamber President Horst Sindermann. The message, conveyed by the GDR ambassador in Baghdad, deals with ways to promote relations between the two assemblies and to consult on international affairs that concern the two countries. Haddad held consultations with Sindermann when he participated in the 67th International Parliamentary Union conference held in Berlin in September.

KING HUSAYN CABLES REAGAN ON HOSTAGE RELEASE

JN211254 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has sent a cable to His Excellency U.S. President Ronald Reagan congratulating him and the U.S. hostages' families on the release of the hostages and their return to their families and homeland. His majesty asserted that the Jordanian stand on the issue of the hostages who were held in Iran was dictated by true spiritual Islamic principles, noble Arab ethics and honest humanitarian values.

His majesty has sent a message to former U.S. President Jimmy Carter in reply to a message his majesty had received on the termination of Carter's term as president. His majesty expressed his thanks and his best wishes for happiness and good health to the former president and his family. His majesty reiterated Jordan's commitment to the dictum of realizing just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East area, which will be in the service of world peace and humanity.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR AT-TA'IF MEETINGS

JN171247 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim left Amman for At-Ta'if in Saudi Arabia today to head Jordan's delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers meetings to begin there today.

KING HUSAYN CONFERS WITH IRAQ'S TARIQ 'AZIZ

JN181540 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] Amman, 18 Jan (PETRA)--His Majesty King Husayn received Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz in the Royal Hashemite Court at noon today. Tariq 'Aziz conveyed to his majesty an oral message from President Saddam Husayn on the latest battlefield developments. In his message, the Iraqi president also expressed Iraq's commendation of Jordan's continued support and fraternal backing for its Iraqi brothers under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn.

His majesty the king expressed his and the Jordanian people's pride in the epics of heroism and honor scored by the fraternal Iraqi leadership, army and people, and in the sacrifices Iraq is offering for the sake of restoring its legitimate rights and complete sovereignty over its lands and waters.

Tariq 'Aziz reviewed in detail the military situation and the recent battles waged by the valiant Iraqi forces as well as the results of these battles, which constituted a major victory against the Iranian challenge.

The two sides also exchanged views on the Arab and Islamic issues to be discussed by the Islamic summit conference in Mecca next week. The meeting was attended by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the commander in chief of the armed forces and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

PRESS REACTS TO REAGAN'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

JN210839 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 21 Jan 81

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Today's papers comment on new U.S. President Ronald Reagan's assumption of power in the United States and on his address on this occasion.

AD-DUSTUR says: Whereas courtesy behooves us to congratulate President Reagan for assuming his important office, frankness behooves us to take him to task for his electoral campaign remarks on the Palestinian people's rights and Israel's practices in the occupied land. These remarks do not inspire optimism but arouse anxiety. Although it is futile to repeat these remarks for President Reagan's ears, we would like to believe his supporters' assurances that these electoral remarks do not reflect the nature of his outlook on the Middle East problems or the landmarks of the policy he will adopt to solve these problems. However, we see no harm in reminding President Reagan that one of the gravest errors he might commit in his outlook on Arab-U.S. relations in interpreting every Arab opposition to his policy as a Soviet plot that should be confronted with violence and every Arab attitude sympathetic toward the United States on any point as an automatic readiness to accept subservience and blind obedience to Washington. The paper adds: Furthermore, one of the most dangerous pitfalls into which President Reagan might be dragged by some of his Jewish aides is being persuaded that military and political support for Israel is the magic wand that guarantees all U.S. interests in the region. Actually, there is no better way to wreck U.S. interests in the region and relations between the United States and the Arabs than the adoption of such a course.

Moreover, it is erroneous and dangerous for President Reagan to think that he can establish relations of cooperation and friendship with the Arab Gulf states or other Arab countries by bypassing the Palestinian issue or postponing the solution of the Palestinian issue or bargaining on the Palestinian people's rights or ignoring the PLO. This issue and its fair solution for the Palestinians are the keys to the Arabs' hearts. Otherwise, neither barges nor fleets can enter.

President Reagan should clearly understand that the Arab peoples are not looking for a confrontation with or animosity for Washington. At the same time, they reject subservience to Washington or Moscow or any other power on earth. All they want is to establish relations of mutual respect and cooperation with everybody based on respect for the Arab nation's right to liberate every single inch of its occupied land and to exercise full sovereignty over its soil, wealth, holy places and destiny.

Commenting on Reagan's address and his proclamation that he will adhere to honesty and honor and work for peace, AR-RA'Y says: What is important is for the new U.S. administration to be convinced that the meanings of liberty, justice and peace do not change from one region to another in our world or in dealings with one people and another. Understanding this basic fact is the key to a just and comprehensive solution to the most dangerous issue: The Palestinian issue. Furthermore, it is the basis for establishing genuine peace in our region, which is considered one of the most important regions in the world in view of its strategic location and resources.

Honesty and honor dictate that the Palestinians should not be kept away from participation in tackling their issue, that Washington should not ignore their inalienable right to regain their usurped land and determine their future in full freedom over this land and that Washington should not collude in any way in the Israeli usurpation of Arab Jerusalem.

AR-RA'Y adds: Honor and honesty also dictate that the new U.S. administration should not close the door to the European community allowing it to perform its role to reach a just and comprehensive settlement of the issue and should not try to impose the Camp David process, the failure and impotence of which have been confirmed by events.

Washington should understand the Palestinian people's right to reject capitulation, which is the same principle for which Reagan is calling. Naturally, the Palestinian rejection of surrender should not be interpreted as terrorism while the U.S. rejection of surrender is termed the championing of peace.

At any rate, the Reagan administration's practices will reveal the extent of its commitment to its principles since practices are the real mettle that test the value of slogans.

VOL ON POSSIBLE TERRORISM AT ISLAMIC SUMMIT

NC191745 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Diplomatic sources have told the Voice of Lebanon that contacts were held among certain embassies [in Beirut] concerning information that a terrorist group is preparing to carry out subversive activities during the summit meeting in At-Ta'if.

HADDAD WARNS 'TERRORISTS' AGAINST MORE SHELLING

NC200745 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Undated statement by Major Haddad to Voice of Hope radio correspondent—read by announcer]

[Excerpt] The terrorists have continued to escalate their operations. Since 1200 on 19 January 1981 the terrorists intermittently shelled, sometimes heavily and at other times lightly, our towns and villages in the eastern sector.

This shelling only ceased at about 1800 of the same day. We limited ourselves to a partial reply to the sources of fire out of a desire on our part to return to the undeclared truce in the area to enable all the residents to live in peace and security.

Yesterday we sent someone to the UNIFIL command informing them of the seriousness of the situation and what could happen if the terrorists continued this escalation.

In any case let everyone know that we have borne a great deal as a result of the terrorists' excesses because we are a people who wish to live in peace and are eager not to harm others. However, things have gone too far, and we can no longer bear more than we did. Therefore, unless those concerned put an end to these excesses, restrain the terrorists and force them to cease their shelling, we shall be free from any previous oral or moral commitment and shall declare a devastating war against our enemies and those who live with them or next to them. Whoever forewarns is excused.

MAJOR HADDAD THREATENS AL-WAZZAN WITH DEATH

NC202015 Paris AFP in English 2000 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Beirut, 20 Jan (AFP)—Rebel south Lebanon Major Sa'd Haddad today threatened Lebanese Premier Shafiq al-Wazzan with death.

Speaking on the Voice of Hope radio here, Major Haddad said that one of his many allies will kill the premier for attacking him during an Islamic meeting.

Major Haddad, head of militia forces in the Christian enclave in southern Lebanon, also threatened to shell non-specific targets north of the Litani River in retaliation for the shelling of civilian parts of Christian settlements by Palestinian progressive forces.

He demanded from the government payment for damage caused by that shelling, payment of his soldiers' salaries and the creation of a university in the area.

Major Haddad also demanded the premier's resignation.

THREE UNIFIL SOLDIERS 'MURDERED' 18, 19 JAN

UNIFIL Statement

NC191519 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Undated statement by UNIFIL spokesman in southern Lebanon--read by announcer]

[Text] On the nights of 18 and 19 January three Senegalese soldiers were killed in an observation center near the village of Tarish. The culprits' identity has not been discovered so far. Preliminary investigations indicate that the Senegalese soldiers were killed by 9-mm pistol shots, fired at close range and that their murder was premeditated. Investigations are still underway. This incident brings UNIFIL casualties to 54--including 10 Senegalese.

UNIFIL Protest

NC210729 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] UNIFIL command officials have protested to the PLO over the murder of four UN soldiers by Palestinian elements during a Palestinian infiltration attempt in the border area. This took place during a meeting held in Beirut between UN officials and the PLO chairman.

Defense Minister Comment

NC201307 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Defense Minister Joseph Skaf has condemned the slaying of three Senegalese soldiers and a Fijian soldier who were serving in the UNIFIL. The defense minister said this was a criminal act, adding that a stop must be put to such acts.

Minister Skaf added that this is a criminal act [as heard] and that all the forces that were present in the area where the ugly crime took place must make haste to immediately hand over the culprits. The defense minister added: Everyone knows the honorable role being played by the UNIFIL in the south. Any attack on these forces is, therefore, to be rejected no matter which party is the culprit. This should be considered a crime against Lebanon; attacking the UNIFIL can only serve Lebanon's enemies and those who oppose the legal authority in Lebanon.

Minister Skaf went on to say: Since the UNIFIL's arrival in Lebanon, 54 of their soldiers have been killed in various incidents--10 of whom belonged to the Senegalese contingent. Is it fair to attack forces which have come from around the world to help us deal with the situation in the south? On this occasion, we would like to salute the UNIFIL's officers, [words indistinct] ranks. We will work within our means to facilitate their mission and to punish the criminals who were behind the slaying of the three Senegalese soldiers and the Fijian soldier. All who are in the south should prove their good intentions and hand the criminals over, because the apparent aim [of these criminals] is to force the UNIFIL from the south.

Today Minister Skaf cabled his condemnation of this crime to Dr Waldheim as well as his appreciation of the UNIFIL.

IRANIAN MINISTER VISITS DAMASCUS, SEES OFFICIALS

Presidential Audience

JN171820 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] At 1415 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Musa Kalantari, Iranian minister of roads and transport. The meeting was attended by Muhammad Tayyarah, minister of transport, and Hasan Rohani, Iranian ambassador in Damascus. The talks dealt with bilateral relations, means to further bolster these relations and the situation in the region.

Musa Kalantari expressed Iran's thanks and appreciation for the Syrian Arab Republic's stand. He stressed that Iran stands with the Arab nation in its struggle against Israel's aggression. He said: We believe that our battle is one. He pointed out that the Islamic revolution in Iran depends on the masses in its struggle against imperialism. The Iranian minister also outlined the situation ensuing from the Iraqi-Iranian war.

President al-Asad welcomed the guest minister and stressed that the Iranian revolution constitutes a great triumph for the entire region and that any attempt to weaken this revolution, as U.S. imperialism is trying to do, is an attempt to weaken the entire region. His excellency the president added that the revolution in Iran constitutes an important stage and a large station on the path of the confrontation with imperialism.

The president outlined the definite cohesion between the efforts to unite the Arabs' word and the efforts to unite the Muslims' word and said that there is no contradiction between the two. The president said the unity of the powers of the Arabs and the Muslims will ultimately constitute the unity of all the oppressed in the face of their oppressors.

President al-Asad explained that the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front considers any victory achieved by the Iranian revolution over imperialism as its own victory. The president said that Israel is a huge imperialist base in the region and, therefore, we call for the unity of all efforts by the sons of this region against this base.

In conclusion, President al-Asad asked Musa Kalantari to convey greetings to Imam Khomeyni, President Bani-Sadr and Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i.

The official talks between the Syrian side under Muhammad Tayyarah, minister of transport, and the Iranian side under Musa Kalantari, minister of roads and transport, were concluded today. The two sides discussed bilateral cooperation in the fields of sea and air transportation and the exchange of facilities and technical expertise in this regard.

Statement, Departure

JN172014 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Text] Prior to his departure from Damascus, Musa Kalantari, Iranian minister of roads and transport, stressed that his visit to Syria was successful and fruitful and said: During this visit we discussed bilateral relations, particularly those related to the two countries' Ministries of Transport and Communications, and ways of bolstering and developing these relations. We have attained good results, which will have positive effects in the near future.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent, Kalantari expressed the hope that the word of Muslims and Arabs will be united so that they will stand together against the racist Zionist entity. He added: The Islamic revolution in Iran consecrates all its economic and human potentials for the sake of unifying the Muslims' word, solving the peripheral differences which lead to division and dispersion and liberating the usurped territory and Jerusalem.

Kalantari and his delegation left Damascus for home this evening at the end of a visit of several days to Syria. They were seen off by Transport Minister Muharram Tayyarah, the ministry's senior officials and the Iranian ambassador in Damascus.

Iranian-Syrian Statement

JN192137 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] The following joint statement has been issued in Tehran and Damascus following the 2-day talks held in Damascus between Iran and Syria on economic and technical cooperation between the two countries:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Out of their desire to expand and promote the ties of brotherhood between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic and in order to pave the road for their joint cooperation and to exchange expertise in the field of land, sea and air transport, a meeting was held between the two countries' delegations in Damascus 16-17 January 1981.

The Iranian side was headed by Musa Kalantari, roads and transport minister in the Islamic Republic of Iran; and the Syrian side by Muharram Tayyarah, minister of transport. The talks were attended by the two ministers' assistants, the executive directors and experts in roads and transport affairs in the two countries.

Second. [as heard] The two sides agreed upon the following matters in the field of cooperation, the exchange of expertise and the mutual benefit of each other's resources:

1. Air transport:

A. Iran National Airlines shall extend its Tehran-Damascus flights to cover Tripoli, [word indistinct] and Algiers and return to benefit from freedom of air navigation.

B. Syrian Airways shall enjoy similar privileges in its flights between Tehran and Damascus.

C. Talks between the two countries' experts shall continue concerning the other two points of the Syrian Airways flights between Damascus and Tehran.

D. The two sides expressed their desire to expand the field of joint cooperation and to mutually benefit from each other's resources in developing and promoting air flights and in promoting air transport.

E. Agreement has been reached between the two sides concerning cooperation in the field of transporting travelers and tourists between the two countries. They decided that talks on this subject would be continued between experts of the two countries.

2. Land transport:

A. Delegations of the two countries' railroad establishments shall pay the necessary inspection visits to study means of benefiting from the available resources in the field of cooperation and to exchange expertise between the two countries.

B. The two countries' experts shall begin the necessary talks and shall follow up these talks with the aim of preparing the land transport agreement between the two countries in order to benefit from the registered trucks.

C. The Iranian delegation shall as soon as possible present a proposed plan aimed at establishing an Islamic company for land transport between the two countries and other Islamic countries. The proposed plan shall be studied by the two countries' delegations.

3. Sea transport:

A. The two countries' experts shall hold talks on sea transport and on the transport of goods imported by the Islamic Republic of Iran via ports in order to benefit from the Syrian ships.

B. The two countries' experts shall hold the necessary talks aimed at establishing a sea transport company.

C. The two sides shall embark upon exchanging information and technical expertise in the field of ports and sea transport. The Syrian experts shall benefit from the developed technical expertise of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the field of sea transport.

D. The two countries' experts shall prepare adequate resources for achieving further cooperation in the field of exchange of spareparts, for setting up workshops for land and sea transport and for benefiting from each other's resources.

AL-ASAD'S REPLY TO CABLE TO PRESIDENT CARTER

JN192020 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's cable to U.S. President Jimmy Carter in reply to the latter's letter on the occasion of his leaving office--date not given]

[Text] Dear Mr President: I received today your letter dated 18 January 1981 which you addressed to me on the occasion of the end of your term of office as President of the United States. I thank you for your good wishes to the Syrian people. I still clearly remember, as you do, our meeting in Geneva in May 1977 from which I left with good impressions in light of what I had heard from you during our talks. I have expressed these impressions on more than one occasion. Though our viewpoints differed after this, as you mentioned, Syria has and continues to believe and to work for a comprehensive just peace based on foundations that have been acknowledged by the international community represented by the United Nations; proceeding from the reality that the dispute is one between all the Arabs on one side and Israel on the other side; on the need for a complete withdrawal from all the Arab territories that Israel has occupied since 1967; and on the recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights including the right of self-determination and establishment of a Palestinian state.

I hope that the U.S. administration, through constructive efforts, will contribute to achieving this objective.

Finally, I wish to express sincere wishes of happiness and good health to you and your family. I also extend good wishes to the U.S. people.

SOVIET MINISTER, DELEGATION DEPART 16 JAN

JN162028 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Nikolay Vasilyev, Soviet Minister of land reclamation and water resources, left Damascus this evening.

BULGARIAN DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN191354 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Damascus--Todor Bozhinov, first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, arrived in Damascus this morning at the head of a delegation on an official visit of several days to Syria.

'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, met him at Damascus International Airport.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent, Todor Bozhinov expressed his happiness over visiting Syria saying: We are making this visit to implement the agreement by President Hafiz al-Asad and Chairman Todor Zhivkov.

He added: We shall hold talks [word indistinct] the visit by Chairman Zhivkov to Syria last April. The main purpose of our visit is to deepen economic and trade relations between the two countries during the coming 5 years. We shall exert all possible efforts to implement the decisions adopted by both leaders.

In conclusion, Bozhinov said: Our cooperation during the coming years will be a firm foundation for expanding bilateral relations in our common struggle.

Meeting With Minister

JN210730 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Dr Muhammad al-Atrash, minister of economy and foreign trade, and Todor Bozhinov, first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, this evening discussed trade and economic relations between the two friendly countries and ways to promote them.

During the meeting with the Bulgarian delegation, agreement was reached on strengthening the bonds of economic cooperation in the service of the Arab Syrian and Bulgarian peoples.

INTERVIEW WITH MINISTER ON TURKISH RELATIONS

NC191030 Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish 15 Jan 81 pp 1, 9

[Interview granted by Syrian Information Minister and Government Spokesman Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad to CUMHURIYET correspondent Cengiz Candar in Damascus--date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Of Syria's neighboring countries, Turkey has the longest common border with Syria, but relations between the two countries are at their lowest. From Syria's point of view, what must be done to develop bilateral relations?

Answer: True, we do have the longest common border. Our relations therefore could have been better. It is a fact that we have different attitudes toward certain issues. However, this should not impede cooperation in many fields. We hope that Turkey will improve its relations with the entire Arab world. I believe that past governments in Turkey pursued a wavering policy toward Israel which was not compatible with their attitude toward the Islamic countries and this had a bad and negative effect on Turkish-Arab relations.

It is a known fact that African states and the Islamic countries have severed relations with Israel. Even some European countries, Spain for example, have no relations with Israel. We had expected Turkey, our Muslim brother and neighbor, to take the initiative and lead the Arab world in its struggle against Israel. This has not materialized. The Arab world considers this as strange. This is what the Turkish Government was expected to do. I hope I will not be misunderstood when I say that Turkey's relations with Israel are being exploited by the United States and Israel against the Muslim Turkish people. This exploitation also aims at creating a psychological and political chasm between the Arabs and their Muslim Turkish brethren.

Question: It was a good step, but still it is not enough. It is the principle that counts. The principle in question demands a severance of relations not a reduction to a lower level. Reduction of relations does not affect relations. It will not change anything. The Israeli Embassy continues to exist in Turkey as does the Turkish Embassy in Tel Aviv, which is actually Palestinian soil under Israeli occupation. Economic and trade relations between Israel and Turkey continue. We know this first step has pleased the Turkish people immensely. We are sure that severing relations with Israel will please them even more.

Turkish-Arab relations should be given priority in Turkish foreign policy. I take this opportunity to stress, with an open mind, our desire to improve relations with Turkey.

Question: Do you think Turkey's relations with Israel obstruct the improvement of economic relations with the Islamic world? In other words, if this political obstacle is removed, would this further economic relations?

Answer: Undoubtedly. [Turkey's] failure to sever relations with Israel remains a questionable point in the minds of the Arabs.

Question: The U.S. gulf strategy has secured the approval of the NATO alliance at its latest meeting in Brussels. Efforts are being made to involve Turkey also in this strategy. What is your stand in this matter?

Answer: We believe that U.S. imperialism is the archenemy of the Arab world and a real enemy of the Third World. The United States does not look upon the Third World countries from the angle of friendship and cooperation. The United States looks upon countries cooperating with it as a means to realize its strategic aspirations.

Question: What are your expectations of the new Reagan administration?

Answer: We do not expect anything new. We hope that the new U.S. administration will pursue a more balanced and a more righteous policy. However, we believe that these hopes are bound to end up in disillusionment.

Question: Let me refer to a very interesting issue--Syrian-Iraqi relations. What are your conditions for improving these relations?

Answer: The enmity between Syria and Iraq is not the outcome of a Syrian initiative. A national progressive front has been set up in Iraq which aspires to set up an independent and democratic Iraq. We support this front for the purpose of helping the Iraqi people to rid themselves of Saddam's dictatorship and of his pro-American policies.

Question: Do you hope that the Iran-Iraq conflict will be the end of Saddam?

Answer: Our view in connection with the conflict is this--it is a deplorable war. There will be no winner. Both sides will emerge as losers, with the people on both sides as the victims. However, we do not doubt in the least that this cruel war will serve as a factor to enhance the efforts of the Iraqi patriots to overthrow the Saddam regime.

Question: Let us refer to Jordan. They have rejected all your accusations whereas you still insist on the veracity of these accusations. On what would the improvement of future relations depend?

Answer: We reject the appearance of another As-Sadat on our borders. We are determined to take every possible measure to prevent this. All we want of Jordan is that it should comply with the decisions of the Arabs, that it should remain loyal to the national struggle of the Arabs and that it should refrain from being involved in plots against the PLO and its cause. King Husayn is pursuing a policy which is hostile to Syria and the PLO but close to the United States, Israel and As-Sadat. We will not allow King Husayn to pursue this policy.

ALGERIASTATEMENTS ISSUED ON U.S.-IRAN AGREEMENT

First Statement

LD191352 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] The statement issued this morning by the Algerian Government on the settlement of the American-Iranian conflict reads:

Upon the official notification received from the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the U.S. Government, the Government of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria hereby announces that Iran and the United States have agreed on the following agreements:

Article 1: Iran and the United States will settle the conflict referred to in Article 2 as the parties directly concerned. Any complaint not settled within 6 months from the date of implementation of the agreement will be referred for irrevocable arbitration by a third party in accordance with the provisions of this agreement. This period of 6 months can be extended for one time only for a period of 3 months at the request of one of the two parties.

An international arbitration court and a conflict court [mahkamat niza'] between Iran and the United States will be formed in accordance with this document with the task of settling complaints of American citizens against Iran and complaints of Iranian citizens against the United States, as well as any countercomplaint connected with the contract, deal or event which is the subject of the (?wronged) citizen if these complaints and countercomplaints have not been settled by the date of this agreement, whether referred to any court or not, and whether stemming from debts or contracts including those deals that are subject of letters of credit or bank guarantees or sequestration or other measures affecting rights of ownership, with the exception of complaints contained in the second paragraph of the statement of the Algerian Government dated January 1981 and complains resulting from actions taken by the United States in reply to the behavior mentioned in the said paragraph, and with the exception of complaints submitted within the framework of a valid contract between the two parties clearly stating that all disputes stemming from it will come under the sole jurisdiction of the Iranian courts concerned in response to a [word indistinct] position.

2. [as heard] The court will also have jurisdiction in matters of official complaints by the United States and Iran against each other resulting from contracts concluded between them covering the selling and purchase of property and services.

3. The court's jurisdiction, as provided for in paragraphs 16 and 18 of the Algerian Government statement of January 1981, will cover all disputes over the interpretation or implementation of any of the arrangements provided for in this statement.

Article 3: [as heard] The court will consist of nine members or more as agreed upon by Iran and the United States so as to ensure the proper conduct of work at the court.

Each government will, within 90 days of the implementation of this statement, appoint their members, who will, within 30 days of the date of their appointment, select the remaining one-third of the members in accordance with their joint agreement. They will appoint one of their number to be court president.

The complaints could be considered by the court sitting in full session or by a three-member committee of the court as decided by the president of the court.

All such committees formed by the court president will consist of one member appointed by each of the three ways provided for above.

2. [as heard] The appointment of members of the court and the court's duties are to be in accordance with the rules of adjudication according to which the UN Committee on the Law of Trade operates unless the parties or the court amend these rules to operate the implementation of this agreement. The rules of the UN Committee on the Law of International Trade, to which is to be subject the appointment of the members of the courts formed of three members in addition to alterations that could be made regarding the composition of the court, are applicable.

3. The complaints of the citizens of the United States and Iran covered by this agreement are to be submitted to the court by the complainants themselves. In the event of complaints of less than \$250,000, these are to be submitted by the governments of the aforementioned citizens.

4. No complaint can be submitted to the court after 1 year has elapsed from this agreement coming into force, or more than 6 months have elapsed from the date of appointment of the president of the court, if this appointment comes after this. These periods are not applicable to the measures stipulated by the paragraphs 16 and 17 of the Algerian Government statement.

Article 4: All rulings and powers of the court are final and decisive.

2. The president of the court is to attest to what is provided by paragraph seven of the statement of the Algerian Government dated January 1981, that all paragraphs concerning adjudication have been implemented according to this agreement.

3. Any ruling made by the court against either of the two governments is to be legally binding against the government in the courts of each country according to its laws.

Article 5: The court is to settle all cases on the basis of respect for the law. Legal rulings and the principles of commercial and international law which it considers applicable are to be implemented, and the norms of the respective professions ['araf al-mihnat al-munasibah] and the (?conflicting) arrangements and new circumstances are to be taken into consideration.

Article 6:

1. The court is to (?convene) in The Hague, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, or at any other place agreed upon by Iran and the United States.

2. Each government party to this agreement is to be responsible for the appointment of an agent to the headquarters of the court to represent it at the court, and to receive instructions and other letters sent to it or sent to its citizens or agents and its machinery [words indistinct] regarding the cases before the court.

3. The two governments will be equally responsible for the cost of the court, all expenses (?of implementing) this agreement [words indistinct] looked into by the court at the request of Iran or of the United States.

Article 7: The word citizen of Iran or of the United States, as the case may be, means (A) a material subject [ashkhas al-madiyan] of Iran or of the United States, or (B) a legal person [shakhsan 'itibari] or any other firm legal entity according to the laws of Iran or of the United States or of one of its states or districts, or of the District of Columbia or of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, on condition that the material subjects, citizens of whichever country, collectively have a direct or indirect interest amounting to 50 percent or more of the capital of this legal person or entity. [sentence as heard]

2. The word complaints of an Iranian or U.S. citizen in the [word indistinct] submitted means a complaint against the citizens of this or that country which has not lapsed from the original date of its submission up to the date of this agreement coming into force, including complaints made indirectly against such citizens owing to the fact that they possess shares or any other interest, against legal persons [ashkas ganuniyin], on condition that the interests of these citizens if taken collectively are sufficient when complaints are lodged for them to secure control over the company or the entity, and that such a company or entity should have no authorization to lodge complaints in accordance with the provisions of this agreement. [sentence as heard]

Complaints submitted to the adjudication court are considered outside the legal jurisdiction of the courts of Iran or the United States or any other court as from the date of submission of the aforementioned complaints.

3. The word Iran means the Government of Iran and any political (?regime) of Iran and every agent or machinery or authority belonging to the Government of Iran or to any of its political sections.

4. The word United States means the Government of the United States and every political section of the United States, and every agent, machinery or authority belonging to the Government of the United States or to one of its political sections.

Article 8: This agreement comes into force when the Algerian Government receives from Iran and from the United States a notification approving the agreement.

Second Statement

LD200030 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 19 Jan 81

["Text" of second statement issued by the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria on the hostage issue following the signing on 19 January of the Algiers agreement between the United States and Iran]

[Text] At the wish of the governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States to mediate in search of a solution acceptable to the two parties to the crisis in their relations arising from the detention of 52 American nationals in Iran, the government of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria has consulted the two governments for a long time with regard to the commitments which each government could undertake to solve the crisis within the framework of the four points stipulated in the decision issued by the Iranian Islamic Consultative Assembly on 2 November 1980.

In accordance with the categorical approval by both Iran and the United States, the government of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria now declares that the following interrelated commitments have been adopted by the two governments:

General Principles

The commitments which this statement reflect are based on the following general principles:

A. Within the framework of the provisions of the two statements of the government of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, and their implementation, the United States shall do as much as it can to restore Iran's financial position to what it had been before 14 November 1979. Within this context the United States undertakes to guarantee the movement and freedom of transfer of all Iranian funds which are under its legal sovereignty, as provided for in article 4-9 inclusive.

B. The aim of the two parties, within the framework and application of the provisions of the two statements of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, is to put an end to all the existing disputes between the governments of each side and the nationals of each side. The aim is to achieve arbitration. To this end, the United States agrees to end all legal suits before the American courts which are receiving claims from American nationals and institutions against Iran and claims by public institutions. It also agrees to annul [as heard] the confiscated assets of creditors held by others as well as judgements made in this connection and to prevent subsequent proceedings based on the aforementioned claims. And it agrees to place the aforementioned claims through binding arbitration.

Noninterference in the Iranian Affairs

1. The United States undertakes that its policy is represented and will be represented from now on, in noninterference directly or indirectly, politically or militarily in the internal affairs of Iran.

Retrieval of Iranian Properties and the Settlement of American Claims

2. Iran and the United States, hereafter referred to as the two parties, shall choose a central bank immediately acceptable to both, hereafter referred to as the central bank, which will act in accordance with the instructions of the Algerian Government and the Algerian Central Bank, hereafter referred to as the Algerian Central Bank, in its capacity as the trustee of the of the frozen cash and cash deposits in the form of a guarantee [words indistinct]. They shall act immediately to conclude the trustee agreements with the central bank in accordance with the arrangements of this statement. All these balances will be placed in the name of the Algerian Central Bank.

Some procedures for the implementation of the commitments stipulated in this statement and in the statement of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria regarding the settlement of the dispute between the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran, hereafter referred to as the agreement for settling the dispute, are stipulated individually in certain commitments of the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran, which are related to the statement of the Democratic and Popular Government of Algeria. [sentence as heard]

3. Agreements relating to the trustee bank stipulate that when the Algerian Central Bank receives from the Algerian Government a certificate to the effect that the 52 U.S. nationals have left Iran safely, the Algerian Central Bank shall then issue instructions for the immediate transfer of balances and other funds deposited as guaranteed funds and frozen with the central bank in accordance with this statement, to Iran, on the understanding that each of the two parties--Iran and the United States--will have the right at any time to terminate, before the Algerian Government issues such a certificate, their commitments as per this statement, with a prior 72-hour notification.

If the Algerian Government submits this aforementioned certificate during the 72 hours of the prior notification, the Algerian Central Bank will then ask the central bank to transfer these balances and funds to Iran. If the 72 hours specified by the United States elapses without the submission of such a certificate or if the prior notification was submitted by Iran, the Algerian Central Bank shall then ask the central bank to return all these balances and funds to the United States. After that, the commitments mentioned in this statement shall be null and void.

Funds Deposited in the Federal Reserve Bank

4. As soon as the agreements relating to the guaranteed financial account, frozen with the central bank, are implemented, the United States shall order the transfer of all gold bullion which Iran owns and which is kept by the Federal Reserve Bank in New York to the central bank, as well as all the other Iranian funds or cash in lieu deposited with the Federal Reserve Bank, in New York, and these shall be kept in the central bank in the form of a guaranteed, frozen account until they are transferred or withdrawn on demand in accordance with article 3 above.

The Funds Deposited with Branches of U.S. Banks Abroad

5. As soon as the required agreements relating to the guaranteed financial account frozen with the central bank are concluded, the United States shall order the transfer of all Iranian deposits and bonds which were recorded in the registers of the offices of the U.S. banks abroad on 14 November 1979, or at a later date, together with the interests calculated to 31 December 1980, to the central bank for the account of the Algerian Central Bank, so as they can be kept in a guaranteed financial account frozen by the central bank for the account of the Algerian Central Bank until they are transferred or withdrawn on demand in accordance with the provisions of article 3 of this statement.

The Funds Deposited With the Branches of the U.S. Banks

6. As soon as Iran and the United States agree to this statement and the agreement relating to the settlement of the dispute, attached to this document, and as soon as arrangements are completed with the central bank for opening the guaranteed financial account, with the interest stipulated in the said agreement and in article 7 below--the arrangements which should be defined within 30 days following the date of this statement--the United States shall order the transfer of all Iranian deposits and bonds deposited with the U.S. banking establishments in the United States, together with the interest, to the central bank during the 6 months that follow the date of this statement so that they can be kept in a guaranteed financial account frozen until their transfer or withdrawal demanded as per article 3.

7. Whenever the central bank receives balances as per provisions of article 3 above, the Algerian Central Bank shall issue instructions to the central bank to:

- A. Transfer one half of these funds to Iran;
- B. Deposit the other half in a special surety account that attracts interest in the central bank until the balance of this account reaches \$1 billion. After reaching this level the Algerian Central Bank shall issue orders for the transfer of all funds received as per provisions of article 3 to Iran.

All balances deposited in the surety account are only for the purpose of securing payment and the payment of demands with regard to Iran in accordance with the agreement on the settlement of the dispute. After that, the central bank must inform Iran each time the balance of the surety account is less than \$500 million; Iran [as heard], on the other hand, must speedily place new deposits which are sufficient to maintain a sum of not less than \$500 million.

This account must be maintained as such until the president of the arbitration court, which is established in accordance with the agreement settling the dispute, certifies to the Algerian Central Bank that all the arbitration decisions which are adopted with regard to Iran have been met in accordance with the agreement settling the dispute. Any sum that remains in the special account will then be transferred to Iran.

Other Funds Deposited in the United States and Abroad

8. As soon as Iran and the United States endorse this declaration and also the attached agreement on settling the dispute, and as soon as arrangements are made to establish the surety account which must be defined in 30 days from the date of this declaration, the United States shall order the transfer of all Iranian financial assets--that is, the funds or bonds which are in the United States and outside with the exception of the funds mentioned in article 5 and 6 above--to the central bank in order that the central bank keep them in a guaranteed frozen account until they are transferred or withdrawn in accordance with article 3 above.

9. As soon as Iran and the United States endorse this declaration and also the attached agreement on settling the dispute, and as soon as the Algerian Government hands over the certificate which is described in article 3 above, the United States will make all arrangements, taking into account the U.S. legal arrangements which were in force before 14 November 1979, for the transfer to Iran of the Iranian assets inside the United States and outside it and which are not covered by the previous articles.

The Ending of Sanctions and [word indistinct]

10. As soon as the Algerian Government hands over the certificate mentioned in article three above, the United States will drop all the trade sanctions effected against Iran since 4 November 1979 and until now.

11. As soon as the Algerian Government hands over the certificate mentioned in article three above, the United States will immediately withdraw all claims now being filed against Iran before the International Court of Justice. After that it will prohibit and bar the followup of any current or future claim against Iran by the United States or any U.S. nationals arising from events that took place before the date of this statement and which are connected with:

- A. The seizure of the 52 American nationals on 4 November 1979.
- B. Their subsequent detention.
- C. The damages and losses affecting the funds of the United States or its nationals inside the American Embassy in Tehran after 3 November 1979.
- D. The damages affecting U.S. nationals or their property as a result of the popular movements during the Islamic revolution in Iran which was not the action of the Iranian Government.

The United States will also immediately bar and prohibit the followup of any current or future claim against Iran before the courts of the United States by non-American nationals, and this is (?in accordance) with the events provided for in the previous sentence.

The Retrieval of the Funds of the Former Shah's Family

12. As soon as the Algerian Government hands over the certificate mentioned in article three above, the United States will freeze the properties and funds in the United States under the control of the inheritors of the former shah or any of his relatives who might be a claimant party in a case brought before justice in the United States by Iran with the aim of retrieving such properties and funds in their capacity as being the property of Iran.

It will also prohibit their transfer to any such claimant, including the inheritors of the former shah. The freeze will remain in force until a final decision on the case is brought before justice. Any violation of the freeze will be subjected to civil and criminal penalties stipulated by American laws.

13. As soon as the Algerian Government hands over the certificate mentioned in article three above, the United States shall issue an order to every person that comes under the legal authority of the United States to give information to the U.S. Treasury within a period of 30 days so that it should convey to Iran all the information he has had since 3 November 1979 and on the date of the aforementioned order, regarding the properties and funds mentioned in article 12. Every violation will subject the violator to civil and criminal penalties provided for in the American law.

14. As soon as the Algerian Government hands over the certificate mentioned in article three above, the United States [passage indistinct].

15. With regard to every judgment pronounced by any American court which provides for the transfer of properties or funds to Iran, the USA shall guarantee in accordance with this document the implementation of the final judgment if these properties and funds are in the territories of the United States.

16. In the event of a dispute arising between the two sides about whether or not the United States has implemented the commitments it is called upon to implement under articles 12 to 15 inclusive, Iran can refer the dispute to irrevocable arbitration by a court to be established in accordance with the provisions of the agreement to solve the conflict. If the court finds that Iran has sustained a loss as a result of the United States failing to implement one of its commitments the court can pass judgment in favor of Iran. This decision will be valid in the court of each country according to that country's own laws.

Settlement of Dispute

17. If another dispute arises between the two sides concerning the interpretation or implementation of any of the provisions of this declaration, one or the other party can refer the dispute to irrevocable arbitration by a court to be established in accordance with the provisions of the agreement on settling the conflict. Each decision to be taken by this court or each dispute including every right to compensation and interest as a result of a loss incurred through the violation of this agreement or the agreement concerning the settlement of the dispute can be implemented by the party who wins the case in the courts of each country according to that country's own laws.

U.S. INFORMED OF HOSTAGES' DEPARTURE FROM IRAN

LD210032 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0000 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The aircraft of the national airlines carrying the 52 American hostages is expected in approximately 20 minutes at Houari Boumediene International Airport. Those American hostages left Tehran at 1724 GMT yesterday following their release by the Iranian authorities. They had stayed 444 days in detention.

In this context the Foreign Ministry announced that the Algerian Government, in implementation of the agreements included in the statement of the Algerian Government, has been officially notified that the 52 American hostages have safely left Iran. Foreign Minister Ben Yahia received Warren Christopher, former U.S. deputy secretary of state, who was charged by President Reagan with the issue of the hostages, and U.S. Ambassador Ulric Haynes and handed them the official statement to the effect that the 52 American citizens have safely left Iran.

Then immediately afterward brother Ben Yahia received the Iranian charges d'affairs and handed him a text of the statement. At the same time the Algerian ambassador in Tehran and the charges d'affairs in Washington notified the Iranian and the American Governments.

ALGIERS COVERS ARRIVAL OF FORMER HOSTAGES

LD210150 [Editorial Report] Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic at 0113 GMT on 21 January carries a relay from Houari Boumediene Airport in Algiers covering the arrival of the aircraft carrying the released Americans from Tehran. At 0118 GMT the announcer describes the scene as the former hostages leave the aircraft. He says that the hostages "appear to be in good health," as was indicated by examinations of the hostages conducted in Tehran by the Algerian medical delegation.

The announcer goes on to report the greeting of the former hostages by U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher and the U.S. ambassador to Algeria and the reception in the VIP lounge of the airport. After a description of the welcoming address given by Algerian Foreign Minister Ben Yahia, the former hostages are reported departing the lounge and boarding the aircraft that is to leave "shortly" for Frankfurt, Germany. At 0212 GMT the relay ends without covering the departure of the aircraft.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI ADDRESSES ARAB PEOPLES' CONGRESS

LD202120 Tripoli JANA in English 1644 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Jan (JANA)--Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great Al-Fatah revolution has affirmed that "Libyan soil is the base of mass popular action". In a speech to the final session of the Arab People's Congress last night, the leader informed the delegations present that they could "rely on Libya because it is suitable for mass action. For Libya has been transformed into a jamahiriyah where conflict has been resolved in the interest of the masses and where people's power, and none other, has been established. Therefore it is more suitable than other place to become a base for mass popular action".

The leader continued "the Arab People's Congress, which groups all the political and vocational forces and movements, represents a genuine start of people's political Arab nationalist action. It can be transformed into a progressive Arab nationalist people's front. This front can adopt socialist unionist action and its programme is based on liberation, socialism and unity. Thus, this grouping becomes transformed into a revolutionary grouping in opposition to the Arab right wing, reaction, regionalism and imperialism.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, added "There is no contradiction among the forces forming the Arab People's Congress despite ideological differences which must wither away through democratic mass interaction".

The leader expressed the desire for the Arab forces to move towards the goal of liberation and ridding the Arab nation from regionalism, exploitation and imperialism. He added "the establishment of the Arab People's Congress is hopeful because it was born in conditions of setback and despair".

Concerning unity between Libya and Syria, the leader asserted that "It is inevitably coming. There is unfamiliar seriousness to realize this unity, for unity is not just to save Libya but to save the entire Arab nation".

The leader said "we must go into counter attack, confront the enemy, reorganize ourselves and realize a change in the balance of forces in order to regain Palestine, the Golan Heights and the occupied Arab territories."

Referring to Chad, the leader said "Libya has intervened militarily in Chad in response to a request from the Chad Liberation Front (Frolinat), ending the war which lasted many years and resolving the conflict in Chad in the interests of the friendly forces and the people's forces represented by Frolinat which led the armed struggle for twenty years and defeated the racist and reactionary puppet forces and imperialism backing them for the secession led by Habre had behind it As-Sadat, his stooge Numayri and the French agents in Africa".

The leader declared "The Libyan and Chadian forces have captured the arms depots in Chad. These depots contained (Israeli), Egyptian and Sudanese weapons because America instigated its agents in Chad, and the war in Chad was against the Jamahiriyah". Colonel al-Qadhdhafi affirmed "We have crossed the border in self-defence when an act of force was used to impose a pro-imperialist regime hostile to the Chadian people". He added "As long as they resorted to force, we responded in kind to impose a friendly regime hostile to imperialism and representative of the Chadian people". The leader explained "the complete mass unity between the two countries, based on people's power as stipulated in the joint Libyan-Chadian statement, is not like the familiar constitutional political unity. For there is a very old historical interaction between the Libyan and Chadian peoples and between the Chadian people and the Arab nation, and the borders are open between the two countries.

The leader of the revolution added "The Chadian people are similar to the Sudanese people in make up. For there is a large proportion of Arabs among the Chadian people. Eastern and south eastern Chad is entirely Arab and a large section of the Chadian people are Arab by origin and race, while the overwhelming number are Moslem, and Arab culture is the prevailing culture in Chad. The Chadian people have a specificity very different from all black African peoples. A very large number of Libyans emigrated to Chad, settled there and became Chadians, similarly a very large number of Chadian people are at present in Libya".

The leader said that "the main and most pressing issue is to achieve Arab unity from the Atlantic to the Gulf, or at least unity between several Arab countries such as Algeria, Libya, Egypt and Sudan, then work can be done to achieve unity with Chad". The leader also explained that "the Africans who objected to the unity between the Jamahiriyah and Chad and did not look at it from the point of view of Arab nationalism, but rather with a racist view".

He added: "What prevents the unity between two African people? And how can we make a distinction between Zanzibar and Tanganyika's unity, which form Tanzania and the unity between the Libyan and Chadian peoples? This is a racist view dictated by imperialism which indicates ignorance, superficiality, and total submission to imperialist will and points also to racism which harmed the African presidents who protested against this unity". The leader also asked "why did not these people protest against what was declared in Kampala yesterday concerning the intention of Kenya? And why, they do not also protest against the proposed unity between Ghana, Mali and Guinea, while they are protesting against the unity between Libya and Chad?" He added that this was a racist view desired by imperialism.

The revolution's leader went on "We fight alongside Africa because we are Africans and members of the organization of African unity which calls for unity in Africa. We join the Africans in their struggle against South Africa and we boycott it, and we combat, along with them, apartheid.

I can excuse the African leaders who are protesting against the Libyan-Chadian unity because they are not expressing their free will but they are merely saying what imperialism suggests to them."

Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi the leader of the revolution affirmed that "Libya is neutral and will remain neutral and the Americans realise this. We do not have any Soviet bases and we are not agents of the Soviet Union. If As-Sadat raves day and night that there are Soviet bases in Libya, the Americans would laugh at what he says because the Americans possess spy satellites and know what is going out of or into the Soviet Union. The Americans cannot say that there are bases in Libya or say that the Libyans presence in Chad is a Soviet extension.

The Americans realize that the Libyan presence in Chad is purely Libyan and they know the reasons behind it. They also know that Libya is an independent and neutral state, neither Marxist nor communist and it is not under the Soviet Union's influence, and that there are no Soviet bases on Libyan soil.

They also know that Libya is anti-American and anti-imperialist and that it endeavours to liberate Palestine and this is the secret of the enmity existing between Libya and America. As-Sadat claims this enmity arises from the fact that Libya has become an agent of the Soviet Union and that there are Soviet bases on Libyan soil, and also that the Libyan presence in Chad is a Soviet expansion, which of course is not true. The Americans know that what As-Sadat says is purely nonsensical because they certainly know that Libya is sincere in its historic orientations and fundamental choices, and it is anti-American because America is an imperialist country and because America supports the (Israelis) who usurped Palestine.

They also know that Libya wants to unify the Arab nation, and this will lead to the emergence of a third or fourth force in the world which will affect imperialist interests, and put an end to (Israeli) existence, and which will have the veto right in the Security Council. America does not want to see the emergence of any new force, particularly on the Libyan model, anti-imperialist and aligned to freedom and to the peoples".

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said "America realizes the nature of the relations between Libya and the Soviet Union and knows that we are friends of the Soviet Union because we are convinced of its friendship and committed to it as we share common objectives. Both we and the Soviet Union are enemies of America, enemies of imperialism and Zionism. The Soviet Union stands with the Palestinian people and the Arab nation, it is also arming the Arab nation. While America blacklists Libya, the Soviet Union sends us long-range missiles and strategic planes".

The leader of the revolution maintained: "We are continuing in our agitation to carry on the counter attack against the American aggression in the Arab homeland, which started by invading Egypt, Somalia and Oman."

Concerning the new American administration, the leader said: "From the political point of view we must give a chance to the new American administration which changes hands from the Democrats to the Republicans, and which may result after two or three years, and not in the very near future, in a change of American policy, such as an American withdrawal from Somalia or Egypt, the scrapping of the swift intervention force or the lifting of the arms embargo on an Arab country."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added: "This is from a political point of view and not from a revolutionary one. Politics require us to give a chance to the new American administration in order to know how dangerous it could be, but President Reagan cannot shift America from supporting the (Israelis) to supporting the Arabs, or shift it from the right to the left because America will remain the way it is for generations unless a miracle happens as it happened in tsarist Russia, Iran under the shah, or Libya under the Senoussi royal family."

He went on to say: "The political wait and see attitude does not exclude agitation to prepare for a counter-attack against the invasion spreading in the Arab world. The Arab People's Congress must adopt a programme for preparing the nation's counter attack against all its enemies, for we will attack Zionism, imperialism, and the reactionary forces throughout the Arab homeland without exception, but if the enemy withdraws from its bases in Somalia, for instance, we will, in this case, cancel from our programme an attack on Berbera base."

The leader ended his speech at the closing session of the Arab People's Congress, by clarifying the kind of Arab unity for which the Arab citizen is becoming ready to fight and get martyred. He affirmed "It is the mass unity in which the conflict will be resolved in the masses' interest and not a unity to repress the masses, not a fascist unity or unity consolidating feudalism and capitalism."

The leader of the great Al-Fatah revolution put the responsibility of clarifying the nature of mass Arab unity and instigating the Arab masses to struggle and die for its realization on the Arab People's Congress.

ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS ISSUES POLITICAL DECLARATION

LD201118 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Political declaration issued by the second ordinary session of the Arab People's Congress in Tripoli on 19 January 1981]

[Text] At this important and grave stage in the history of the Arab struggle, when the Arab masses and the national, pan-Arab and progressive regimes and forces are fighting against imperialism and Zionism and reaction, and in response to the requirements of confrontation, the Arab People's Congress held its second session from 15-19 January 1981.

The session reviewed the most important political developments in the Arab and international arenas. The session acquired special importance due to the increased steadfastness of the masses of our Arab nation and its forces and national progressive Arab regimes in face of the ferocious offensive by the imperialists, Zionists, and reactionaries. These forces seek to impose capitulationist solutions on our Arab nation and liquidate the Palestine question through the imposition of the Camp David agreements, complementary plans, and alternative options to the establishment of an independent Palestine state, and reimposition of American domination over the Arab homeland through the Camp David accords and intensification of the imperialist presence through the establishment of American military bases in Egypt, Somalia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the waterways, the oil communication lines in the Arab Gulf, and by bolstering the role of the Arab reactionary regimes in serving imperialism and Arabizing the conflict in the region.

The Camp David accords epitomize the Zionist-imperialist-reactionary alliance and provide them means for defending the common interests of all members of this alliance against the Arab national liberation movement and its national and pan-Arab progressive regimes which constitute the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation. The front epitomizes Arab steadfastness and the escalation of the Palestine Arab people's struggle in the occupied territory against the Zionist occupation authorities, thus defying the suppression, terror, detention, torture, oppression, assassination, and deportation of national leaders, as well as the UNRWA plots against members of our Palestinian people which are part of the imperialist scheme to liquidate the Palestine question. The resistance has intensified and expanded into the occupied territory against the occupation authorities.

In collaboration with steadfast Syria and the struggling National Lebanese Movement, the Palestine revolution has continued to check the Israeli aggressions against southern Lebanon and the sectarian isolationist plan, and all attempts which strike at the Palestine revolution and exhaust the National Lebanese Movement.

Steadfast Syria has bravely and valiantly confronted the Israeli aggressions on southern Lebanon and stood fast in the face of all internal and external plots which seek to subdue it and weaken its resistance to the American imperialist regimes in the region.

Relations between the various members of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation became stronger and their ability to face up to the imperialist-reactionary-Zionist offensive increased.

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah bravely faced the plots of imperialism and As-Sadat against its eastern borders and in Africa. It condemned the French military provocations and called for confrontations of the direct American imperialist offensive in all areas.

Algeria aborted the attempts at internal subversion and external provocation against the borders of the Arab Maghreb.

The PDRY is boldly facing the threats of imperialism and reaction and the hostile military moves on its borders and within its territorial waters, and the attempts by Saudi Arabia through its agents to obstruct the unity of the two parts of Yemen.

The National Egyptian Movement also intensified its struggle to topple the regime of agent As-Sadat inside and outside Egypt.

The struggle movements and the armed struggle in the Peninsula, the Gulf and Western Sahara and in all the fields of confrontation against the reactionary regimes which are in league with imperialism also intensified.

The unity decision between Syria and Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah affirmed the importance of the unity struggle for the liberation of Palestine and realization of the objectives of the Arab struggle.

In order to place the Arab masses face to face with their responsibilities, the Congress decided the following:

The struggle tasks of the coming stage:

1. To abort the Camp David accords, the autonomous rule plan, and all the capitulationist solutions and alternative options imposed by imperialism, Zionism and reaction, particularly the so-called Jordanian option which aims at detracting from the legitimacy of the PLO and liquidating the Palestine cause.
2. To increase the struggle and combat capabilities of the Palestine revolution in all fields of confrontation with the enemy under the leadership of the PLO--the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine people--and also to provide all forms of support for the struggle of our rising masses inside the occupied territory.
3. To open all confrontation fronts before the Arab fedayeen action to escalate confrontation with the Zionist enemy and enable the Palestine revolution to play its political and struggle role on the Jordanian arena.
4. To bolster the steadfastness of Syria, the advance stronghold of confrontation against the Zionist enemy, and to consolidate with it against all internal and external plots hatched against it, and to provide it with all military and financial aid to enable it to achieve military balance with the Zionist enemy.
5. To bolster the National Lebanese Movement and its cohesion with revolutionary Syria and the Palestine revolution in defense of Lebanon's unity and Arab character, against the isolationist plot and Israeli aggressions in southern Lebanon. All these constitute a pan-Arab responsibility.

6. To back the struggle of our Arab people in Egypt, and their national, pan-Arab and progressive forces to overthrow the Camp David agreements and to overthrow the agent regime of As-Sadat, and to restore Egypt to its natural position in the pan-Arab struggle. The conference stresses the need to work for strengthening the unity of the factions of the National Egyptian Movement opposed to the regime of As-Sadat and the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plans.

7. To mobilize the Arab masses to wage continuous struggle to liquidate the imperialist military bases in all parts of the Arab homeland and to strike at American imperialist interests, to include the use of the weapons of oil and other assets in our pan-Arab battle against the enemies of the Arab nation.

8. To work to escalate the struggle of the masses for Arab unity and to speed up the realization of the fighting unity between Syria, the revolution [as heard] and the revolution of the great First September, and to realize a pan-Arab unionist tide which will speed up the rise of unity and will protect it against the plot of its enemies.

9. To realize basic freedoms in all parts of the Arab homeland as a basic condition for the Arab mass upsurge with which the Arab masses can restore their effective role in realising the targets of Arab struggle.

10. To call for direct dialogue between the Ethiopian regime and the Eritrean revolution to find a peaceful solution which would ensure the right of self-determination for the Eritrean people and preserve the interests of both people, and thwart imperialist and reactionary maneuvers in the region.

11. To call for an end to the war raging in the Western Sahara and to grant the Saharan people the right to self-determination on their own national territory through direct dialogue, similar to that which took place with Mauritania.

12. To intensify the struggle against the imperialist onslaught against Africa, especially the [word indistinct] assault, and to back the struggles of the progressive forces in it, and to support the Socialist Peoples' Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in Chad, and to stand against the American imperialist plans in east Africa and French colonialism in west Africa.

13. To build the progressive pan-Arab popular front which mobilizes, organizes and leads the struggle of the Arab masses to achieve their targets in liberating all parts of the occupied Arab territories, and for unity, liberation and progress.

14. To strengthen the fighting relations between the Arab revolutionary forces and the forces of liberation and progress in the Islamic and the nonaligned countries.

15. To strengthen the alliance of the Arab National Liberation Movement with the World Liberation Movement and the democratic forces in the capitalist world, and the liberation and progressive movements in the world, and the community of socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union.

16. To strengthen the links of liberation and progressive struggle with the revolutionary forces which are escalating their struggle in Latin America and the Caribbean, and to support the revolution in El Salvador and Guatemala to enable them to abort the military dictatorial regime in their countries.

At the end of its work the Arab Peoples' Congress salutes the people of the Socialist Peoples' Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and its revolutionary leadership, headed by the brother struggling leader Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, for the facilities provided to convene the conference and the success of its work.

The congress also values the guiding address with which Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud opened the congress and the tasks for which it is responsible.

The congress values the great effort exerted by the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress, especially General-Secretary Brother 'Umar al-Hamdi, and the achievements made in the past 3 years. It also values the effort exerted in preparation of the documents of this congress and the serious preparations which contributed to the success of its work.

ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS SENDS CABLE TO AL-QADHDHAFI

LD201854 Tripoli JANA in English 1420 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Jan (JANA)--At the conclusion of the second ordinary session, the Arab People's Congress sent a cable to Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi leader of the great Al-Fatah revolution. It reads as follows:

Brother Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi leader of the great Al-Fatah revolution the [word indistinct] who attended the second ordinary session of the Arab People's Congress which was also attended by the various factions of the Arab liberation movement would like to pledge to you their allegiance to the revolutionary struggle in an effort to achieve the aspirations of the Arab nation in terms of unity and liberation.

To this effect, the Congress gratefully evaluates your decisive revolutionary effort in confronting the vicious attack against the Arab nation.

The Congress strongly condemns the French military provocations the purpose of which is to regain control over the African Continent.

The Congress appreciates the role played by the Jamahiriyah in helping the Chadian people to secure their freedom and unity.

At the local level, the Congress appreciates the socio-economic transformation drawn by the great Al-Fatah revolution on the road to a final emancipation of mankind.

On this occasion the Congress takes this opportunity to praise your efforts towards the achievement of pan-Arab unity and the merger with Syria. This merger is a decisive reply to the deteriorating situation in the Arab region.

Finally, the Congress is greatly thankful to the Libyan people for their support for the Arab People's Congress and its Permanent Secretariat. The Congress appeals to you to keep your revolutionary work up until progressive revolutions are established all over the Arab homeland.

MAURITANIA

LIBYAN FOREIGN SECRETARY ENDS VISIT 19 JAN

AB191643 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Salam at-Turayki, the secretary of foreign affairs of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, left Nouakchott this morning at the end of a 24-hour visit to Mauritania. It is to be noted that during his stay the Libyan diplomat was received by the prime minister and head of government and that he held talks with the minister of justice and Islamic orientation and acting minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. Before his departure Mr at-Turayki said in an interview with radio Mauritania that the talks he held with Mauritanian officials were on relations between the two countries and on Arab and African issues.

The Libyan foreign secretary also said he was satisfied with the outcome of his visit, which he described as positive. He added that the two countries hold similar views on African, Arab, and international problems and referred to the relations between the 10 July movement and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. Indeed, Mr at-Turayki expressed his satisfaction with the positive evolution of these relations and his admiration for the courageous stand taken by the 10 July movement in the Western Saharan crisis. Mr at-Turayki said that this stand constituted a fundamental factor in the preservation of peace in the Maghreb subregion.

In addition, the Libyan secretary for foreign affairs reaffirmed the desire of the Libyan leaders and people to support the Mauritanian people with all possible means in the pursuit of the important and historical role they have chosen to play in the name of the Arab, African and Islamic cause.

MOROCCO

BARRE VIEWS SAHARAN CONFLICT, AL-QADHDHAFI'S AIMS

LD200058 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Prior to the visit French Prime Minister Raymond Barre is to pay to Morocco, the French radio conducted an interview with Moroccan Prime Minister and Minister of Justice Matti Bouabid. The prime minister dealt with Moroccan-French relations, the Sahara issue, the Islamic summit, the Middle East crisis and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's subversive activities.

The visit of French Prime Minister Raymond Barre, Premier Bouabid stressed, falls within the framework of consolidating bilateral relations. Moroccan officials, he explained, have constant contacts with French officials. The visit, he added, will be an opportunity to hold talks on all problems and issues which are of concern to both countries, in addition to international issues. It will also be an opportunity to discuss the question of the expansion of the EEC by the joining of Spain and Portugal, and all the subsequent implications, in that, so far, France has been more sensitive toward our arguments and cases.

Referring to the tension prevailing in northwest Africa, Mr Bouabid explained that Morocco has always stressed that the Saharan issue is an artificial one, and that the Saharan is an integral part of Morocco which has regained its Saharan regions which used to be under Spanish colonialism.

But, Mr Bouabid added, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had other ambitions. He embarked on arming and facilitating the action of some of the mercenaries. We enlightened the international circles about this subversive act which Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is carrying out.

Mr Bouabid expressed the conviction that the Chad events will make all the states--and in particular the African countries which used to be deceived by flashing principles such as the right to self-determination of the [word indistinct] strategy which Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has (?revealed). The prime minister added that now Africa has got the courage to say no to al-Qadhdhafi. This is because they were trying to conceal the fact [word indistinct] the existence of a comprehensive strategy which seeks to create disturbance in Africa. Now, some African countries are making their voices heard.

The prime minister stressed that the Moroccan Royal Forces were in control of the situation and that a number of observers went to the Sahara after the recent battles and were able to find facts for themselves on the spot.

The prime minister recalled the many appeals addressed by His Majesty King Hassan II to the Algerian leaders so as to make them understand that it is not in the interest of any one, and Algeria in particular, to continue to be in this situation, pointing out that the Moroccans sincerely believed that one should embark on building the greater Arab Maghreb.

The Islamic summit, which is to be attended by all Muslim countries with the exception of Iran and Libya, is of a great importance since it will discuss problems including the Iraqi-Iranian war, the situation in Afghanistan, the political and economic relations among Muslim countries and these countries' attitude to major international issues.

Replying to a question on the attitude of the new U.S. President toward the Middle East problem, Prime Minister Bouabid stressed that the solution of the problem is first and foremost in the hands of the parties concerned, that is, the Arab countries. The Arabs, the prime minister and justice minister says, do not want to look for a solution outside this framework.

He explained that President Reagan made statements which were not to the liking of the Arabs. Now we hear that these statements are within the framework of the election campaign. Generally speaking, if President Reagan wants to devote himself to this problem and if he reaches a solution which can assist in getting the Middle East out of its (?hot bed), this is what we hope for.

EUROPEANS PRAISE HANDLING OF SAHARA CONFLICT

LD201034 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Today the European parliamentary delegation visited the town of Dakhlah, the last stage in the delegation's tour of the recovered regions. Our correspondent reports from Marrakesh:

The European parliamentary delegation arrived in Marrakech this evening. This evening the members of delegation visited the town of Dakhlah. At the end of the visit to Dakhlah, leader of the delegation General (Sal) gave the Moroccan radio and TV a statement. He said:

In my own name and in the name of the European parliamentary delegation of the Christian Democrats groups, the Conservatives and Liberals who represent six EEC countries--France, Britain, Italy, Belgium, Federal Germany and Holland--I am pleased to say that we admired what we have heard and seen and felt during our visit, and in particular the position of the Moroccan Royal Armed Forces. Following this visit it became clear to the members of the delegation that the basic aim of those who hide behind the mask of the Polisario is to take possession of Morocco's Atlantic shores and, consequently, the Canary Islands. Nevertheless, the military organization [words indistinct] by the Royal Armed Forces is bound to create support for the confrontation of external aggression, regardless of its weight, and to stand in face of any infiltration.

Concluding he said: In my own name and the name of the delegation, I believe our countries will understand the true aims of Polisario and will give the noble and brave country, Morocco, all the moral and material aid it needs; and will support Morocco's efforts for stability, peace and freedom, not only in North Africa but also in the whole of Africa.

POLITICAL CIRCLES TERM REAGAN SPEECH ENCOURAGING

TA211002 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 21 Jan 81 p 1

[By Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Today Prime Minister Menahem Begin is to send a message to President Ronald Reagan congratulating him on taking office. In his message, Mr Begin will indicate the friendship between the two countries and congratulate the U.S. President on the release of the hostages.

Political circles in Jerusalem expressed satisfaction last night with Reagan's inauguration speech. According to them, this speech was encouraging from Israel's viewpoint, because it indicated a firm political policy and a U.S. desire to stand by its friends and allies with a strong presence.

Jerusalem expects that the new administration's political aims concerning the resumption of the autonomy talks will become clear within the next month.

The U.S. Embassy in Israel expects a State Department decision about the future of Ambassador Lewis within the next few days.

21 JAN EDITORIALS ON HOSTAGES, REAGAN POLICY

TA210939 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0440 GMT 21 Jan 81

[From review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] HA'ARETZ writes that, on the one hand, when the lives of the hostages are no longer at the mercy of the ayatollahs and the Iranian rabble, it would be very tempting to give release to feelings of frustration built up over a year through punitive measures against the criminals in Tehran. It is hard not to view favorably the educational value of such course of action. However, a blow by the United States may push Tehran into Moscow's arms, which is something Washington was attempting to prevent throughout the period of conflict. On the other hand, it would be tempting and not only on the part of Tehran, to take advantage of the conclusion of the affair to reestablish normal relations between Iran and the United States. The Iranians hope to obtain the means to continue the war with Iraq, and the United States may entertain a hope of restoring Iran to the Western camp.

Israel and the Arab world have an interest in preventing a decisive victory by one of the warring parties in the Persian Gulf. Yet they are also concerned that Washington does not soon forget what happened in the last 15 months in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

DAVAR writes that Israel, an ally and a friend so much dependent on U.S. aid, should hope for the greatest possible success by President Reagan. Although Israel will probably experience trying times that will not be easy with his administration, there is no doubt that a stronger, healthier, more stable United States may have a positive influence on our conflict-ridden region as well.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that what is in store for the Middle East should be examined not in the light of the election period promises but rather it should be judged by the actions taken by the White House in the near future. Now we will see what the President will give preference to: the oil needs or the pledges given to Israel and to the U.S. Jews.

The Jerusalem POST writes that Israelis of all political and social hues wish Mr Reagan the greatest possible success. They hope that Reagan's administration will be a period of growing freedom, well-being and peace. Since Israel's fortunes are so closely intertwined with those of the United States it seems obvious that anything contributing to the restoration of a strong and self-confident United States can only be to Israel's advantage.

JERUSALEM CITES CARTER, BEGIN CABLES ON HOSTAGES

TA191525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] The U.S. President has sent a special cable to Prime Minister Menahem Begin on the end of the affair of the hostages in Iran. The cable arrived a short while ago and it stated: We know that Israelis share in our happiness on the day we have been waiting for so long. Never has a threat to the normal structure of international relations been so difficult and complicated as the hostages affair. President Carter thanked the Israeli Government for its sympathy and support for the U.S. efforts.

The prime minister replied to President Carter saying: I must admit that I am hard put to find the appropriate words to express my happiness upon hearing this wonderful news. We share your joy over the return of the hostages to their homes. The prime minister also warmly thanked President Carter for the friendship he demonstrated toward Israel, for his understanding of Israel's security problems and for his efforts to achieve the Camp David accords. Begin invited President Carter and his wife to visit Israel.

KNESSET APPROVES FIRST READING OF ELECTION BILL

TA201922 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] This evening, because of coalition votes and the opposition's abstention, the Knesset approved the first reading of the government's draft bill for the Knesset dissolution and the holding of elections on 7 July.

Our Knesset correspondent, Tzvi Yisre'eli, reports that, to the opposition's surprise, the Knesset speaker decided not to permit the opposition factions from discussing their proposals for the Knesset dissolution tomorrow. The speaker decided that the opposition's proposals would only be discussed next Monday. Tomorrow the house will discuss the appointment of Yoram Aridor as finance minister.

SHAMIR CONDEMNS FOREIGN OPPOSITION TO AGREEMENT

TA210944 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that the opposition of many countries all over the world to the peace agreement with Egypt adds to the recent difficulties in Israeli-Egyptian relations. He condemned the European countries for having objected to the agreement and for having given in to extortion.

The foreign minister also said that Saudi Arabia and Iraq exert pressure on the African countries not to resume their diplomatic ties with Israel. To achieve this goal, Saudi Arabia and Iraq inject large sums of money into these countries.

Shamir condemned the intention of the Federal Republic of Germany to sell arms to Saudi Arabia and said that he hoped that this shameful act, as he termed it, would not be implemented.

Mr Shamir promised that Israel would continue its efforts to develop its relations with Egypt. A genuine peace means open borders and direct contact in all fields, Mr Shamir said. He was addressing the conference of the World Jewish Congress in Jerusalem.

LIBYAN, AFRICAN OFFICIALS COMMENT ON CHAD ISSUES

Libyan Foreign Minister

AB200930 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Salam at-Turayki, the Libyan minister of foreign affairs, arrived in our capital today from Nouakchott around 1200 aboard a special Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah plane. Dr at-Turayki, who is leading an important delegation, was met on arrival by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Lt Col Felix Tiemtartoum and Ambassador Michel Compaore, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry. We now present the interview of the Libyan minister conducted by our colleague (Badjirah Ben Edouard).

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Minister, you have just arrived in Upper Volta from Mauritania. Could you tell us the aim of these visits you are undertaking to several countries?

[Answer] I am here to deliver a message from the Libyan head of state to the president of the Republic of Upper Volta, as I have also done in some other countries, and to discuss African problems and bilateral relations. [passage indistinct] We will also discuss African problems, including Chad.

[Question] Concerning African problems particularly, people have been talking a lot about the Chad-Libyan affair. Some people consider it an annexation of Chad by Libya. As a Libyan official, could you tell us something about this? [words indistinct]

[Answer] As you know, there has been a lot of propaganda against Libya since our revolution and because of Libya's anti-imperialist policy. [words indistinct] Libya and Chad are neighboring countries. Libya helped Chad to put an end to a rebellion which caused a lot of suffering to the Chadian people. Libya would be very happy if a legitimate government could be set up there to put an end to the (?present situation). [words indistinct] There has always been talk about Libyan-Chadian unity. In any case, unity between African countries falls within the context of the objectives and charter of the OAU. But this was not the case with Chad. When Goukouni visited Tripoli, there were discussions about bilateral relations and he thanked Libya for its assistance to the brotherly people of Chad. In all communiques issued at the end of visits by heads of state, one always talks about unity between two peoples. That was what we did. But we have not yet realized a union with Chad. Free elections will be held in Chad to be followed by the formation of a government. If at that time the Chadian people decide to merge with Libya and the Libyans also agree, it will be (?possible). [words indistinct] There is the example of the union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar. There was also at one time the union between Senegal and Mali. [words indistinct]

[Question] Could you tell us now the stage of the discussions concerning the Libya-Chad merger and the problems which may crop up?

[Answer] I have already told you that there is no merger. There is not even a plan. We did not hold such a discussion. There is no plan to merge Libya and Chad. [words indistinct] [End recording]

Sekou Toure

AB191655 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Address by Guinean President Sekou Toure to the closing session of the Conakry Regional Council of the Revolution on 18 January--recorded]

[Excerpts] During our deliberations of 11 January and at your request, we presented a brief report on the situation in Chad. We explained to you particularly the results of the meeting held in Lagos by the enlarged commission in charge of the Chadian problem and emphasized the serious contradictions that divided the commission members.

This brief report enabled you to better understand and to positively appreciate the conclusions of the recent special conference held in Lome on 14 January concerning the same problem. We do not want to comment on the final resolution adopted by the Lome conference because the declaration already published by our press organs is sufficient.

We will only add that the conference condemned the conclusion of the treaty of military assistance between the Transitional National Union Government of Chad and the Libyan Government. This was because the 1979 Lagos accord categorically forbids all the neighboring countries from interfering in Chad's affairs. The Libyan revolution and the Guinean revolution are two sisters, and our two governments are cooperating sincerely and dynamically for the realization of a common program of progress for the people. Our two peoples practice the same religion. But one must search for truth, and when it is found it must be respected. That was why, in your name, we embodied historic truth by saying only what should be said on behalf of the peoples of Chad and Africa. [applause] The special conference asked four heads of state to undertake an urgent mission to the United Nations. The countries concerned are: Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and (?Guinea) [short breakdown in transmission] We have asked the UN secretary general to kindly visit us. That would facilitate our task. Last night, we received a message informing us that the UN secretary general has agreed to our request. The four heads of state, the UN secretary general and some senior UN officials will hold discussions in Freetown. We hope that the international body will fully justify the confidence placed in it by the OAU.

[words indistinct] The peace mission to be accomplished in Chad is of exceptional importance. In fact, we must avoid a clash between the Libyan troops and the troops which the Congo, Benin and Guinea are to send to Chad. With the help of the United Nations, which will be legally binding on all the member states [as heard], the mission entrusted to the four countries could be accomplished without any military clashes. The Continent's honor and world peace are involved. [words indistinct] our country will assume its responsibilities and will make an effective contribution to the triumph of truth and justice in the interest of the brotherly people of Chad. [applause]

Nigerian Statement

AB200650 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Nigeria is currently holding consultations with her neighbors to explore avenues for developing further strategies for resolving the Chadian problem and easing tension in the subregion. An official statement issued from the Executive Office of the President yesterday said that the government was watching closely the developments in Chad with a view to effectively protecting its nationals as well as the interest of the OAU.

The statement further said that last Wednesday, President Shehu Shagari joined other heads of states in Lome, Togo, to evolve a concerted OAU approach to the problem. It also recalled the visit of the Chadian leader, Mr Goukouni Oueddei, on the invitation the president, during which he made clear of Nigeria's determination to strive relentlessly for the implementation of the OAU resolutions on the Chadian crisis. President Shehu Shagari who is in the Republic of Cameroon at the request of that country's leader, President Ahmadou Ahidjo, will hold further consultations on the Chadian problem.

AFRICAN PRESIDENTS' FREETOWN MEETING POSTPONED

AB202010 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] The President's Office has announced that the meeting of six African heads of state, arranged to take place in Freetown today, Tuesday, 20 January 1981, has been postponed till further notice.

KENYAPRESIDENT CONGRATULATES REAGAN ON INAUGURATION

LD202106 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Jan 81 EA

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi has sent a message of congratulations to Mr Ronald Reagan on the occasion of his inauguration today as the 40th President of the United States. In his message, President Moi noted with satisfaction the deep confidence and trust the American people showed in Mr Reagan by electing him their president.

President Moi said, by electing Mr Reagan Americans had demonstrated their faith in his ability and wisdom to lead them in these challenging times. His Excellency said he is confident that under Mr Reagan's able leadership America will continue to play a positive role in the search for just and equitable solutions to the global problems facing mankind today, including those facing Africa.

President Moi said: Kenya and America have continued to enjoy cordial relations, close cooperation and understanding in many areas of mutual concern to the two countries. He said he is confident that these friendly relations between the two countries will continue to grow during Mr Reagan's administration for the mutual benefit of the peoples of the two countries. His Excellency the president wished Mr Reagan good personal health and continued peace and prosperity for the people of the United States in the years to come.

SOMALIAPRESIDENT SIAD BARRE CONGRATULATES REAGAN

LD211232 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0330 GMT 12 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The president of the Somali Democratic Republic, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, last night [as heard] sent congratulations to the new U.S. President, Mr Ronald Reagan, who was inaugurated as president last night. Challe Siad said in his message:

On behalf of the government and people of Somalia, I send you this message to congratulate you on being sworn in as President of the United States last night. I am sure you will strengthen the good relations between our two countries in the interests of our governments.

President Siad Barre also wished the U.S. President long life and good health and progress and prosperity for the American people.

DEPUTY MINISTER VIEWS REGIONAL, GLOBAL ISSUESEthiopian Attacks, USSR Bases

LD152042 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 15 Jan 81 EA

[Excerpts] Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Challe Mahamud Siad Muhamed said Abyssinia is continuing to stir up tension and crises in the East African region at the same time it is attempting to deceive and cheat international opinion concerning the legitimate rights of self-determination of those it colonizes, and its internal instability.

The deputy minister, speaking to reporters in his office this morning, said that in the past 6 months Abyssinia and its backers amassed nearly 100,000 troops armed to the teeth in the so-called border areas. They have concentrated in the areas of Dogob, in the Mudugh region; Gesdir, in the northwest region, where they have amassed forces close to 27,000 troops, of which 7,000 are Russian and Cuban.

Challe Mahamud Siad stated: The aim behind this is to launch an attack on the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] and capture the northwest region, the target being Berbera, and capture the Mudugh region to split Somalia in two.

The deputy minister disclosed that the SDR, the government and the people are prepared bravely to defend their nationhood and teach the Abyssinians, their backers and any other enemies an everlasting lesson. Challe Mahamud Siad Muhamed added that since surprise attacks have failed, whatever attempts the Abyssinians and their backers make in the future will meet a similar fate. He also warned Abyssinia and its backers not to attempt such a move, as they will be the losers.

The deputy minister, replying to a question on the recent statement by Kenya, said that on several occasions the Somali Government has declared it does not have any territorial claims against Kenya. Challe Mahamud Siad Barre, the SDR president, while addressing Somali workers openly discussed Kenya-Somalia relations and declared that Somalia has enough land and lodges no territorial claims against Kenya. The deputy minister added: We don't know what Kenya's foreign minister wants from the SDR, and we would like the Kenyan leaders to dispel any doubts so relations between the two countries may become cordial and friendly.

Replying to a question on the Russian military bases at Dahlak, on the shores of Eritrea and Aden, he said those Russian bases at Aden, Socotra, Assab, Massawa and Dahlak are endangering peace and stability in the Horn of Africa, the Gulf region and the Arab countries around the Red Sea and the world at large. We are opposed to the Russian expansionist policy which in recent years has become an open secret. This political-military expansionist policy of Russia ought to be opposed by all peaceloving communities of the world. Continued Russian interference or interference by those it controls on the African Continent, and in particular the Horn region and the Indian Ocean, must cease, declared the deputy minister. The deputy minister, answering a question concerning a statement last week by a Sudanese minister calling on Somalia to join a peace conference with the countries in the region, said Somalia has always accepted peace proposals from whatever quarter in this region. Somalia welcomes any sincere suggestion which satisfies in a just manner the rights of the people in the region and which will at the same time end tension, hostility and suffering in the Horn of Africa.

Kenya, Libya

LD162008 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1702 GMT 16 Jan 81 EA

[Interview with Somali Deputy Foreign Minister At Mahamud Siad Muhamed at undated press conference, with questions asked by unnamed correspondents--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] On 5 January, Kenya's foreign minister in London said on BBC radio that Somalia has not renounced its claim on Kenyan territory. What are your views on this? And how much have Kenyan Somalis suffered in the recent disturbances?

[Answer] The suffering by Somali communities in Kenya in the recent disturbances cannot be expressed in words. It is known that these people have been subjected to isolation, killing and torture. The Somali Government is disturbed by the massacre and torture those people have been subjected to. We also inform the Kenyan Government and people that the Somali Government has too much respect to send bandits into the neighboring country of Kenya. These people are backed by Abyssinia and live in Kenya or come from Abyssinia.

We have repeatedly told the Kenyan Government to root out the mercenaries who are dedicated to marring relations between the two countries. It is well known that on several occasions the Somali Government has returned vehicles and livestock that have been stolen by thieves and found their way into the Somali Democratic Republic.

[Question] Last week a Sudanese minister called for Somalia to join a peace conference in the region. What do you say about this and what is the Libyan role in the affairs of this region?

[Answer] Currently the so-called chairman of the Libyan people's foreign affairs secretariat is in Addis Ababa. His visit does nothing but increase tension in this region, and the Continent of Africa as a whole. In past years the Mengistu and Al-Qadhdhafi regimes, while working for their master, the Kremlin, have increased tension and crisis in Africa, as Al-Qadhdhafi's recent move did in the Republic of Chad and the way Mengistu is provoking the Somali Democratic Republic. This current meeting is nothing but continued sabotage by some countries of Africa. We call on African governments and people to be vigilant against such leaders, who are nothing but the stooges of foreign powers.

UGANDA

LIFTING OF KAMPALA CURFEW ANNOUNCED 16 JAN

LD161904 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The government has lifted the curfew which has been imposed in Kampala for more than a year and a half. The curfew was imposed on the capital and the surrounding areas by the Uganda National Liberation Forces [UNLF] government in the middle of 1979 at the height of insecurity following the fall of the first UNLF government.

The lifting of the curfew was announced today in a brief statement issued in Kampala by the inspector general of police, Mr Luke Ofungi.

MINISTER CALLS ON EX-AMIN SOLDIERS TO RETURN HOME

LD202324 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 19 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The minister of supplies, Dr Moses Apiliga, has called on the Madi [Tribe] to advise their brothers and sisters in exile in the Sudan to return home peacefully and stop causing problems to the people in Moyo District. Dr Apiliga, who was addressing a meeting of Madi living in Kampala, Jinja and Entebbe, at Lugogo Sports Club, told them that following the government's policy of reconciliation and no revenge, the security situation in Moyo ought to be improved by asking ex-Amin soldiers to return home. The minister said he is prepared to make arrangements for their full return home.

The minister informed the gathering that the government was doing all that is possible to contain the situation, but warned that the Madi should help the government in this endeavor. The minister disclosed that the Ministry of Health has already earmarked an ambulance and a lorry full of drugs for the victims. The meeting was chaired by the former National Consultative Council member, Dr (Basil Chotaburu).

CAPE VERDERULING PARTY DECIDES TO AMEND NAME 19 JAN

AB191848 Paris AFP in French 1747 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Praia, 19 Jan (AFP)--The ruling party in Praia on Monday changed its name to African Independence Party to Cape Verde (PAICV) in place of the African Independence Party of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde (PAIGC).

The decision to make the change was made at the national conference of Cape Verdean political cadres, which met in Praia and was changed Monday into a congress. The change is a result of the coup that took place in Guinea-Bissau on 14 November, which was condemned by Cape Verdean authorities.

NIGERIAMEDIA DISCUSS REAGAN POLICY, ACTION IN AFRICALagos Analysis

AB202215 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The coming to power of Mr Ronald Reagan as the new President of the United States can rightly be regarded as one of the most important events for Western countries. By that, Mr Reagan assumes leadership of the Western world. While Ronald Reagan presents an exciting image for his personality, he is noted for his hardline conservative views, and this is why the prospects of his presidency generated anxieties around the world.

As every American President before him, Mr Reagan has inherited a litany of thorny problems both within and outside his country as he takes over the American leadership. His most pressing domestic problems relate to the economy. From the very start, his administration is faced with an economy on the verge of recession and growing inflation. On the international scene he has to contend with a volatile world situation characterized by great uncertainty.

However, for us in Nigeria the most important issue is how Mr Reagan reacts to African problems, particularly to the inhuman policies of apartheid and racism in Southern Africa. His predecessor in office, Mr Jimmy Carter, at least attempted to show concern and interest in African economic and political affairs. Mr Reagan is expected to play a key role on Namibia. The racist South African government has held onto Namibia in defiance of UN resolutions and sanctions. This continued defiance of world opinion has been due largely to the support which the Pretoria regime has been receiving from America, its Western allies and the multinational companies.

Mr Reagan's election has not been received with great enthusiasm in Africa because of the fear that under a Republican administration there might be greater American support for South Africa. What Africans demand of him is action to ensure the implementation of Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council, which sets out a plan for independence and majority rule in Namibia. Nigeria and the rest of Africa also want the Reagan administration to put greater diplomatic and economic pressure on the Pretoria regime to abandon its obnoxious apartheid policies. This can be done by initiating a break with the present situation whereby the American veto at the Security Council is so often used to frustrate the efforts of the international community to ensure legality and justice in South Africa. The administration should also discourage the American multinational corporations from investing in South Africa.

As President of the United States Mr Reagan is expected to give maximum support for a new world economic order which will ensure an effective bridge of the widening gap between the rich and the poor nations.

As far as we in Nigeria are concerned our relations with America depend on the attitude of the White House to issues affecting Africa. The direction of American policy in the next 4 years will dictate how healthy or otherwise our relations will be with the United States. America knows all along Nigeria's total commitment to the elimination of apartheid in Africa and absolute devotion to upholding the dignity of the black man anywhere in the world. Mr Reagan himself, however, sounded a note of hope in a message to the recently concluded conference of the African-American Institute in Freetown, Sierra Leone. In that message he stated that his administration would pursue a policy of consultation and cooperation with African countries on matters affecting the continent. This statement contains commitment, but it is to be hoped that Mr Reagan will go beyond mere declaration of intention and take positive steps in line with African opinion.

Nigeria and the rest of Africa extend to the new American President their goodwill and the hand of friendship. It is up to Mr Ronald Reagan to reciprocate.

Press Views

AB211100 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] Two papers, the NEW NIGERIAN and the DAILY SKETCH, take a look at the head of the new administration in America and its possible outlook towards Africa. The NEW NIGERIAN recalls that when Mr Jimmy Carter was elected as President 4 years ago, many people in Africa and the black world jubilated because they felt his era would be advantageous to them and regret that this was not to be the case. The paper is therefore not very optimistic about the prospects of the best deal for Africa, and especially the oppressed people still under racist tutelage. This, the NEW NIGERIAN argues, is because the Reagan administration is not likely to see Africa on its own merits but purely in terms of its geopolitical importance vis-a-vis the East-West struggle. It also regrets Reagan has not (?been very encouraging in the fact that no black was given any major Cabinet appointment by Mr Reagan. The paper, however, hopes that the administration in Washington will not be given the opportunity to take Africa for a ride.

The SKETCH also shares the same view and says Republican presidents over the years have not been known to be favorably disposed to Africa in their foreign policy formulations. The paper nevertheless thinks that things could change for the better this time for, according to it, Americans should now realize that Africa can no longer be taken for granted. While conceding the fact that economic considerations have forced succeeding American administrations to fraternize with the racist majority in South Africa, the SKETCH wants the new President to know that the present potentialities in other African countries like Nigeria, Zaire and Zimbabwe are far better than those of South Africa. It is therefore left for President Reagan to prove to Africans that Republican presidents are not as a rule against the African interest, concludes the SKETCH.

PREACHING BANNED IN PORTION OF NIGER STATE

AB192140 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Religious preaching has been banned in the (Al-Hijah) emirate of Niger State. A government statement in Minna said that the ban was necessary in view of the recent incidents in Kano. It added that district and village heads in the area had been directed to enforce the ban.

MALAWIZIMBABWEAN MINISTER VIEWS TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA

LD192218 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Jan 81 CA

[Text] The Zimbabwean foreign affairs minister, Dr Witness Mangwende, said in Blantyre today that it was difficult at the moment for Zimbabwe to cut trade links with South Africa because his country's economy was closely linked to that country's. He, however, said that if Mozambique ports were fully equipped Zimbabwe would support all steps that would be taken by all African states to reduce dependence on South African ports. Dr Mangwende, who was on his way to Tanzania to attend a meeting of the Organization of African Unity Liberation Committee, also commented on the recent United Nations Geneva conference on Namibia. He blamed South Africa, which administers the territory, for the failure of the conference.

MOZAMBIQUEMACHEL SENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO RONALD REAGAN

LD202104 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 20 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The president of the Frelimo Party and the People's Republic of Mozambique, Samora Machel, has sent a congratulatory message to Ronald Reagan on his being sworn in as U.S. President. The message reads:

Your Excellency, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, Washington: I wish to express to Your Excellency our best wishes on the occasion of your being sworn in as President of the United States following your landslide victory in the November elections.

We have noted with satisfaction the positive evolution of relations between our two countries and states. It is our desire to cooperate with Your Excellency's government with a view to strengthening and promoting mutually beneficial cooperation. We are sure that your administration will give due consideration to the issues related to decolonization, the fight against apartheid and consolidation of peace in this zone of the world within the spirit of equality, independence and respect for sovereignty.

I wish Your Excellency good health and success in performing your tasks and much prosperity to the American people.

SOUTH AFRICASTATE PRESIDENT VILJOEN SENDS MESSAGE TO REAGAN

LD211112 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The South African state president has sent a telegram to Mr Reagan on behalf of the South African Government and people congratulating him on his inauguration to office. President Viljoen said South Africa looked forward to a strengthening of friendly relations with the United States and wished for continued fruitful cooperation.

JOHANNESBURG PLEASED WITH REAGAN POSTURE ON AFRICA

LD191744 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] We comment on the split in the OAU. The Organization of African Unity has condemned Libya for its interference in Chad. The OAU is also opposed to the proposed unification of the two countries. This again highlights the deep divisions between the moderate and radical countries among the 50 OAU member states.

Five years ago the OAU was split right down the middle over the question of the government of national unity for Angola, as opposed to the recognition of the Marxist MPLA regime in Luanda. But it was the withdrawal of United States support for the UNITA liberation movement, which is today still fighting the MPLA in Angola, that left the moderates in the OAU without moral support and tipped the scales in favor of the radicals and recognition of the MPLA.

With the exception of France, the Western powers have not shown themselves to be dependable allies of Africa's moderate leaders. But with Governor Ronald Reagan's incumbency this week as President of the United States, Africa's moderates can once again take heart. America's new leader and his staff have shown themselves to be in favor of a much stronger American approach to Soviet encroachment in Africa. A new era dawns for Africa this week in which there is new hope of ridding itself from the tightening Marxist yoke which it has borne for the past 5 years.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON SANCTIONS THREAT

LD201119 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Jan 81 CA

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says he does not think there is an immediate threat of sanctions against South Africa. In an interview with the SABC he referred to SWAPO's threat after the failure of the Geneva conference to step up the terrorist war and said he did not think that SWAPO could gain significant strength immediately to carry out its threat. He said that if the United Nations continued to accept SWAPO as the only representative of the people of South-West Africa, then South Africa would be committed to (?go ahead) without the world organization.

He believed that in the independence struggle the internal parties of the territory [words indistinct]. Mr Botha said the Geneva conference as a whole was seen as a plus factor for South Africa and the internal parties. These parties for the first time had had an opportunity to put their case. He said they had done this courageously and in a manner in which the international press had taken notice of them.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON BREAKDOWN OF GENEVA TALKS

LD191918 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] The South-West African Administrator General Mr Hough says the internal political parties and South Africa will have to reevaluate the entire situation after what happened at the Geneva preimplementation conference. He told a news conference that he would soon report back to the South African Government. He said that at no stage had the United Nations said, for the record, that it was prepared to meet the demands of the internal parties that there would be equality between them and SWAPO. Mr Hough said he believed attitudes would have to be reevaluated toward Resolution 435. He said he could not spell out what steps should be taken because he was not sure what they should be. The South African Government regarded Resolution 435 as still alive. Asked how seriously he viewed the SWAPO threat to increase military activity, Mr Hough said one should never ignore somebody who is threatening one, but he was not at all worried.

PUBLISHERS WITHDRAW APPLICATION FOR BLACK NEWSPAPERS

LD201210 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] The application for the registration of two black newspapers in South Africa has been withdrawn and the application for registration of a third newspaper has been approved. A joint statement issued in Cape Town by the minister of internal affairs, Mr Heunis, and the minister of justice, Mr Coetsee, said application for registration of the POST TRANSVAAL and SUNDAY POST had been withdrawn by the managing director of the Argus Printing and Publishing Company, Mr Harold Miller.

Registration for the SOWETAN has been approved. The decision to withdraw application for registration came after Mr Miller had notified that steps had been taken in terms of the Internal Security Act of 1950 as amended to prohibit the publication of POST TRANSVAAL and the SUNDAY POST should the Argus company continue with the application for the registration of the two newspapers. The registration of the three newspapers lapsed at the end of last year because they had not been published or distributed for a month as a result of strikes by journalists.

ZAMBIA

MUGABE, KUANDA HOLD TALKS, SIGN ECONOMIC ACCORD

Denial of Strained Relations

LD191500 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 19 Jan 81 CA

[Excerpt] Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe today dismissed allegations that the relations between his country and Zambia are strained. Mr Mugabe said the allegations of strained relations between the two countries is a plot by the enemies of both countries who do not want to see them strengthen their links. Speaking at State House before holding talks with President Kaunda, Mr Mugabe stressed that there is no coolness in the relations between Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Mr Mugabe arrived in Lusaka this morning leading a high-powered delegation to bilateral talks with the Zambian Government. The Zimbabwean prime minister was met on arrival at Lusaka International Airport by President Kaunda; Party Secretary General Mr Mainza Chona; Prime Minister Mr Daniel Lisulo; Secretary of State for Defense and Security Mr Grey Zulu; Central Committee members; Cabinet ministers and party militants.

Economic Commission Accord

LD201412 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 19 Jan 81 CA

[Text] Zambia and Zimbabwe today agreed to set up a joint commission to promote economic cooperation between the two states. The agreement was signed in Lusaka today by President Kaunda and Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe after 4 hours of talks at State House. The commission will be composed of ministers with responsibilities in the agreed areas of cooperation and will identify programs in which the two countries can further cooperate and help in their development. The commission will explore and facilitate economic development between the two countries with emphasis on agricultural, mining and industrial sectors.